13
BAKEMONOGATARI
OH!GREAT
ORIGINAL STORY:
NISIOISIN
ORIGINAL CHARACTER
DESIGN: VOFAN

XIII

BAKEMONOGATARI

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OH!GREAT

Original Story:
NISIOISIN

Original Character
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13

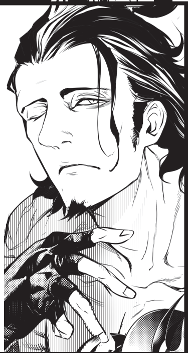
MAIN CHARACTERS

Koyomi Araragi

A boy who became Kiss-Shot's thrall after saving her. He has fought and defeated three vampire hunters in order to return to being human.

Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade

A vampire powerful enough to be called the "king of aberrations" who Koyomi saved from near-certain death. Thanks to Koyomi, she has returned to her original form.



Guillotine Cutter

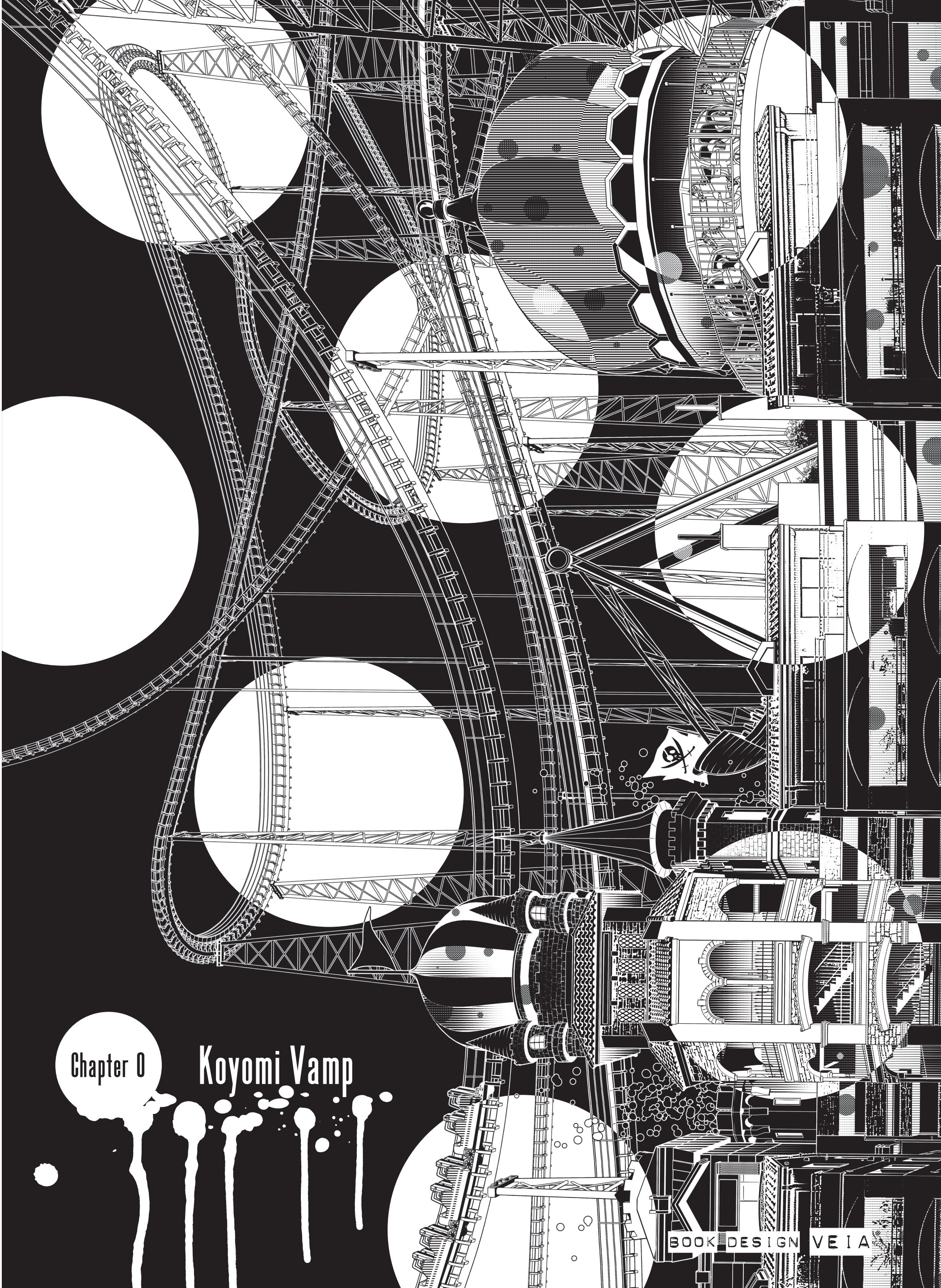
A vampire hunter who took both of Kiss-Shot's legs from her despite being human. However, he was defeated by Koyomi.

Tsubasa Hanekawa

Koyomi's friend who goes to the same school as him, and an honor student that few honors could sufficiently describe. She goes out of her way to support Koyomi, even putting herself at risk in the process.

THE STORY SO FAR

During spring break, Koyomi Araragi saved the heavily wounded vampire Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade. He was fully prepared to die for her but instead finds that he has become her vampiric thrall. To become human again, he fought three hunters who were after Kiss-Shot. Having managed to somehow defeat them all, he recovers her limbs (and heart), and now, the "king of aberrations" is fully revived.


Chapter 0
Koyomi Vamp
BOOK DESIGN VEIA

ZSSHH
We—
We're...
We're flying...
BWOOF
BWOOF
BWOOF
BWOOF
BWOOF
BWOOF

HA-HAAA! ♡
I'VE RETURNED! I'VE RETURNED!!
HAHAAA HAHAAA
OH, IT IS TRULY A WONDERFUL THING!
WOO-HOO-HOO
I am myself and whole once again...!!
—Wouldst thou not agree, my servant?
...
JIGGLE
JIGGLE

It's a grand mystery ...
Those— turned into *these* ...!!
VA-VOOM
WELL-SHAPED
POP
FLAT
I feel like I could sit on those things if I tried hard enough...
Urk.
TWITCH
... Hm?
H-Huh...? Did she read my mind?
Can vampires do that, too?!
WH—
WH-WH-WHAT'S WRONG, KISS-SHOT?!

...
Huh?
What is it?
Wert thou speaking to mine after-image?
Y...
Your after-image?
I just circled the Earth seven and a half times!!
THOKK
WHAT ARE YOU, LIGHT?!
SWOOOSH
I have to say, this might be the only time I ever use that interjection in my life.

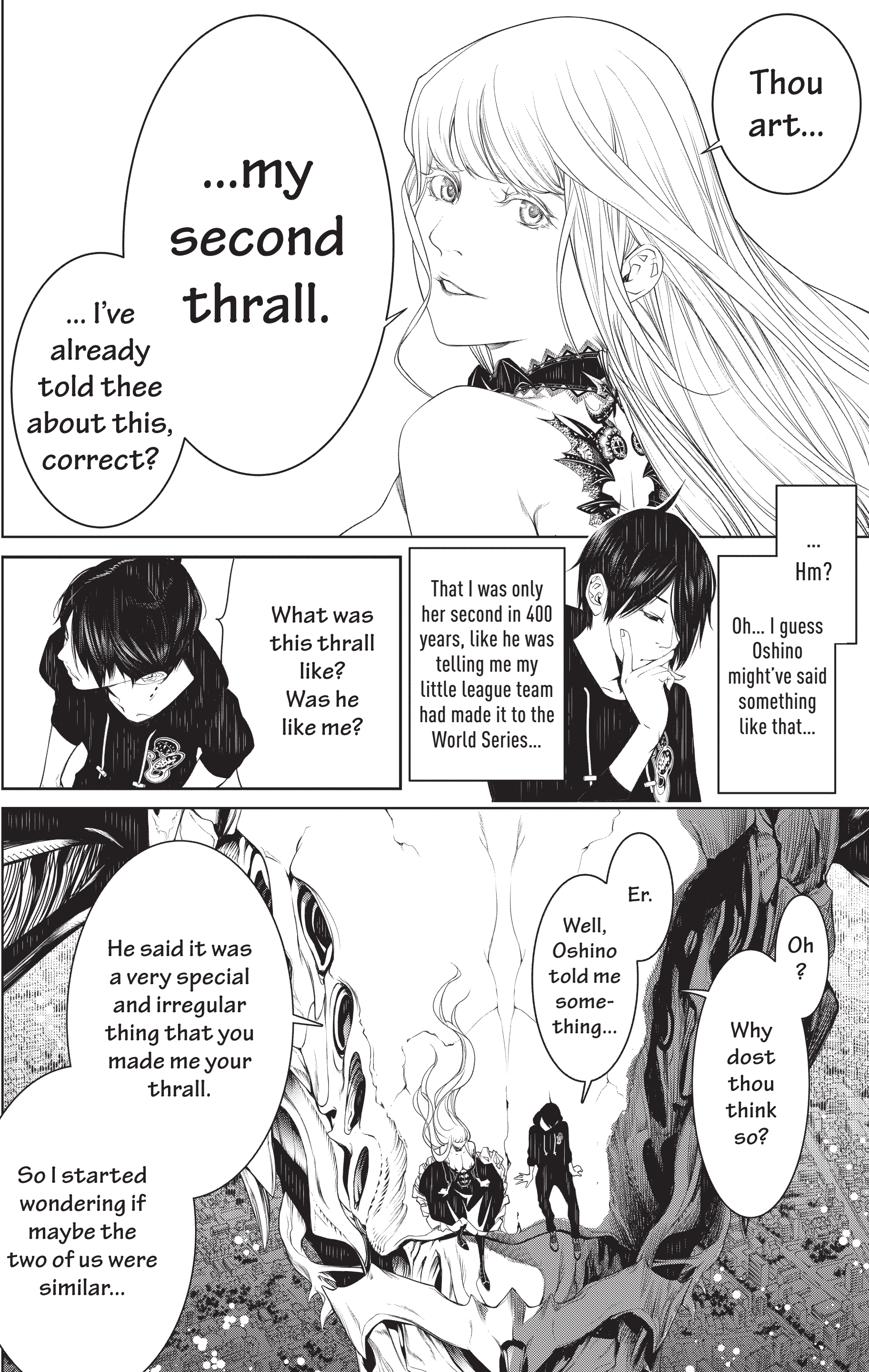
JUUUUST KIDDING!!!
I JEST!!
'TWAS A LIE.
IF I HAD CIRCLED IT SEVEN AND A HALF TIMES, I WOULD BE IN BRAZIL RIGHT NOW!
...U... Ugh...
She's being so hyper...
Ummm.
...Oshino went off somewhere, you know.
HMMM?
WHAT ABOUT THE BOY?
Well, your heart.
Aren't you going to get mad at him?
'TIS A TRIFLING MATTER.
I SHALL GRANT HIM FORGIVENESS.

HOO-HAAH
—I MEAN, I DON'T CARE!!!
...
Umm...
Well... Sorry to have to ask this when you're celebrating...
...but you need to keep your promise...
...Kiss-Shot.
?!
I...
...told Hanekawa something.
I said I wanted her to wait for me when the new school year began and I returned as a human.
I might make it sound like that's far off, but school starts tomorrow.
I'd like you to hurry up and turn me back into a human.

...
Ah— yes, indeed.
Aye.
Hm?
...
What was that just now...?
That *pause.*
Ser-vant.
I permit thee to ap-proach.
Huh?

What is the matter?
I said to approach me.
HUP!
NO, NO, NO
Urk.
SPLAT
THWAK
SPLURT
?!!
Why cower so?
Thou art my precious servant... I won't eat thee.
No need to worry, I'll return thee to being human! ♡
Whoa.
Whoaaaaaaaaaa.
I'm...
...so close...!

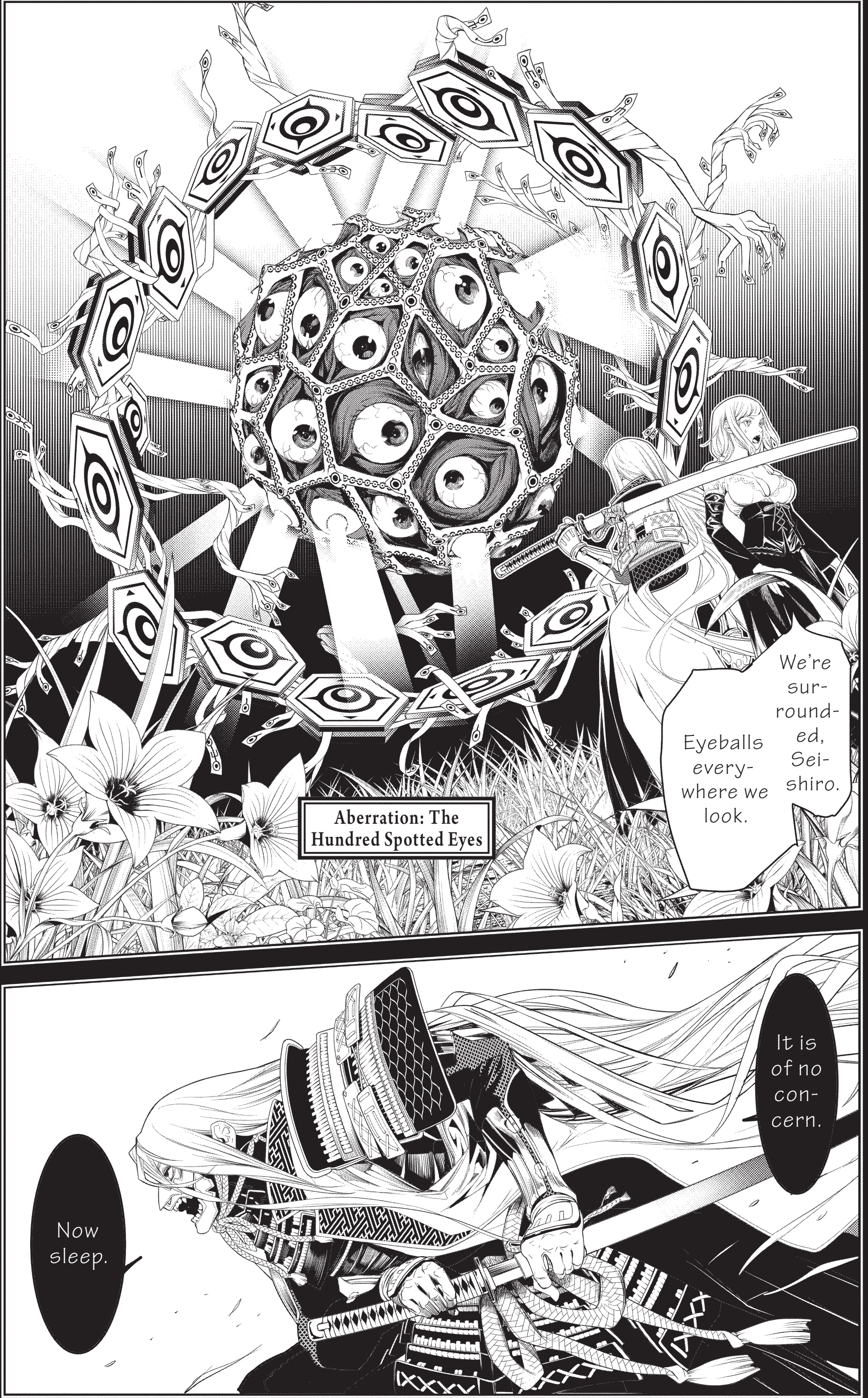
Stationary outlet
MEGALET
Next turn
... But before that.
Won't thou...
...have a little talk with me first?
...
Is this something we need to do in order to make me human again?
Indeed it is essential.
To me.
Just sit.


Thou art...
...my second thrall.
... I've already told thee about this, correct?
... Hm?
Oh... I guess Oshino might've said something like that...
That I was only her second in 400 years, like he was telling me my little league team had made it to the World Series...
What was this thrall like? Was he like me?
Oh?
Why dost thou think so?
Er.
Well, Oshino told me some-thing...
He said it was a very special and irregular thing that you made me your thrall.
So I started wondering if maybe the two of us were similar...

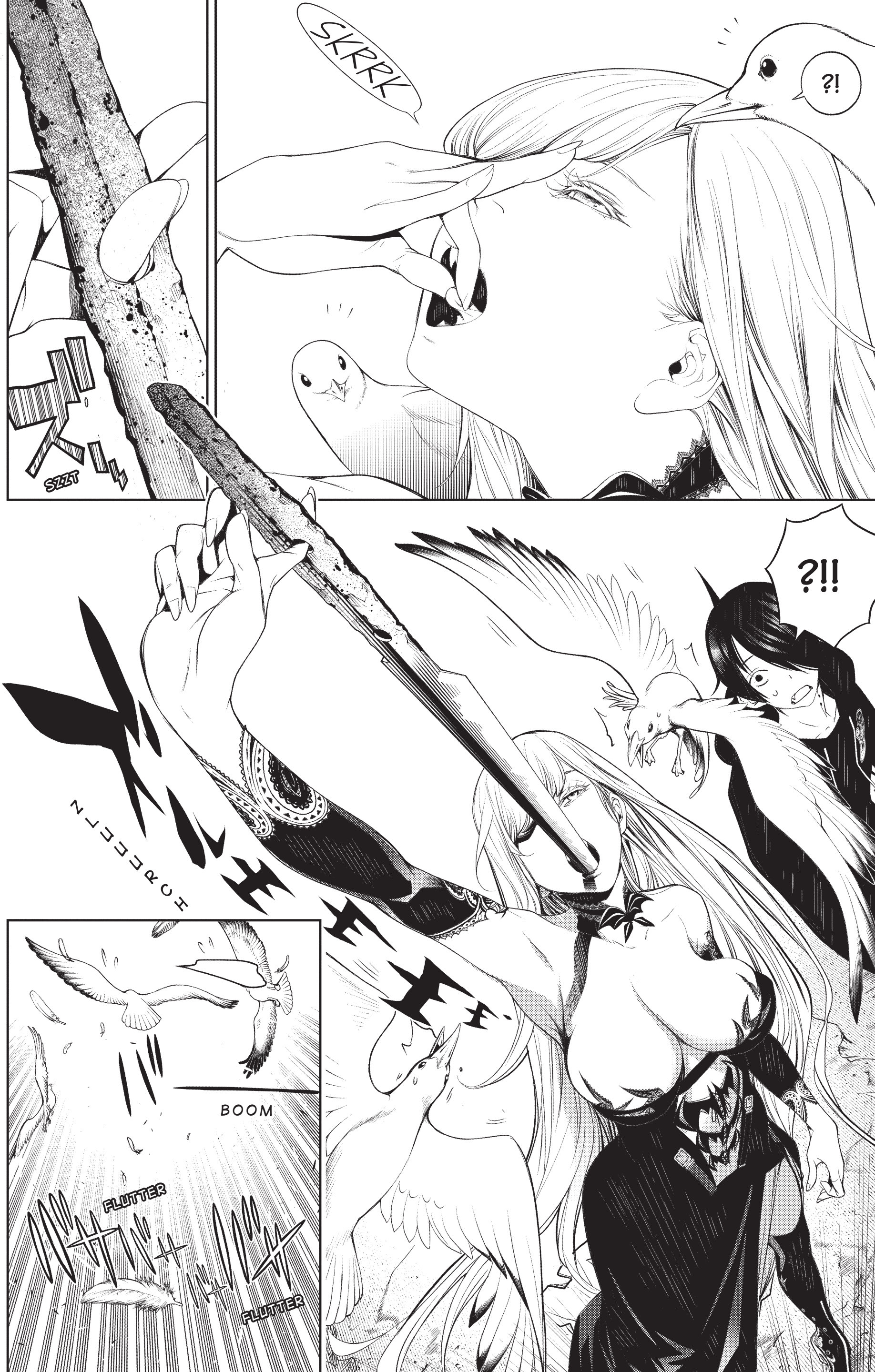
HRMPH
...
Thy race is about the only trait thou sharest with him!
Huh?
Hm ...?
Did I... upset her?!
Are you saying... he was Japanese?
Aye.
I was gallivanting around the world, my youth getting the better of me, and I met the man here in this country.
That is when I learned Japanese as well.
Of course... much seems to have changed with the country and the language since then.
Oh... Well, in that case—
You could've gotten him to help you again this time.
Then you wouldn't have had to take a risk with someone like me, right?

'Twas not possible.
He is already dead.
... Oh...
...
FLUTTER
FLUTTER
He was...
...a mighty warrior.

His name —
Sei-shiro Shishi-rui.
...


Aberration: The Hundred Spotted Eyes
We're sur-round-ed, Sei-shiro.
Eyeballs every-where we look.
It is of no con-cern.
Now sleep.

He was a strong man.
That above all.
The only man to whom I could ever entrust my back.


SKRRK
?!
SZZT
?!!
HORRRRRRK
BOOM
FLUTTER
FLUTTER

A keep-sake from him.
The rabble call me "aberration slayer" because it was this sword's moniker as well.
The en-chanted blade...
...Ko-koro-watari.
...There are...a lot of jokes I want to make here, but...
... Hm?
... Huh?
A sword...?
When I met Kiss-Shot that night...
TOBACCO
Yeah... Wasn't there also...

A sword—
standing right there, as if to guide me to her...?!
...
If in this moment...
...Hanekawa had been by my side—she may have figured out the "answer" here in the blink of an eye.
But I remained clueless. And for whatever reason...
...a *certain something* Oshino said to me kept replaying in my head like the chorus of some song.

If someone fixed this whole situation—then I probably belong to the fixed side.
...
What's going on here... It's like...
I keep getting little glimpses... Like I can see something—
But when I look at it...it's gone.
...
Hm?
Now.
Once again.
—Allow me to give thee my thanks, servant.
To collect my heart, which I had not even noticed was missing, was quite unanticipated.
...
Kiss-Sho...

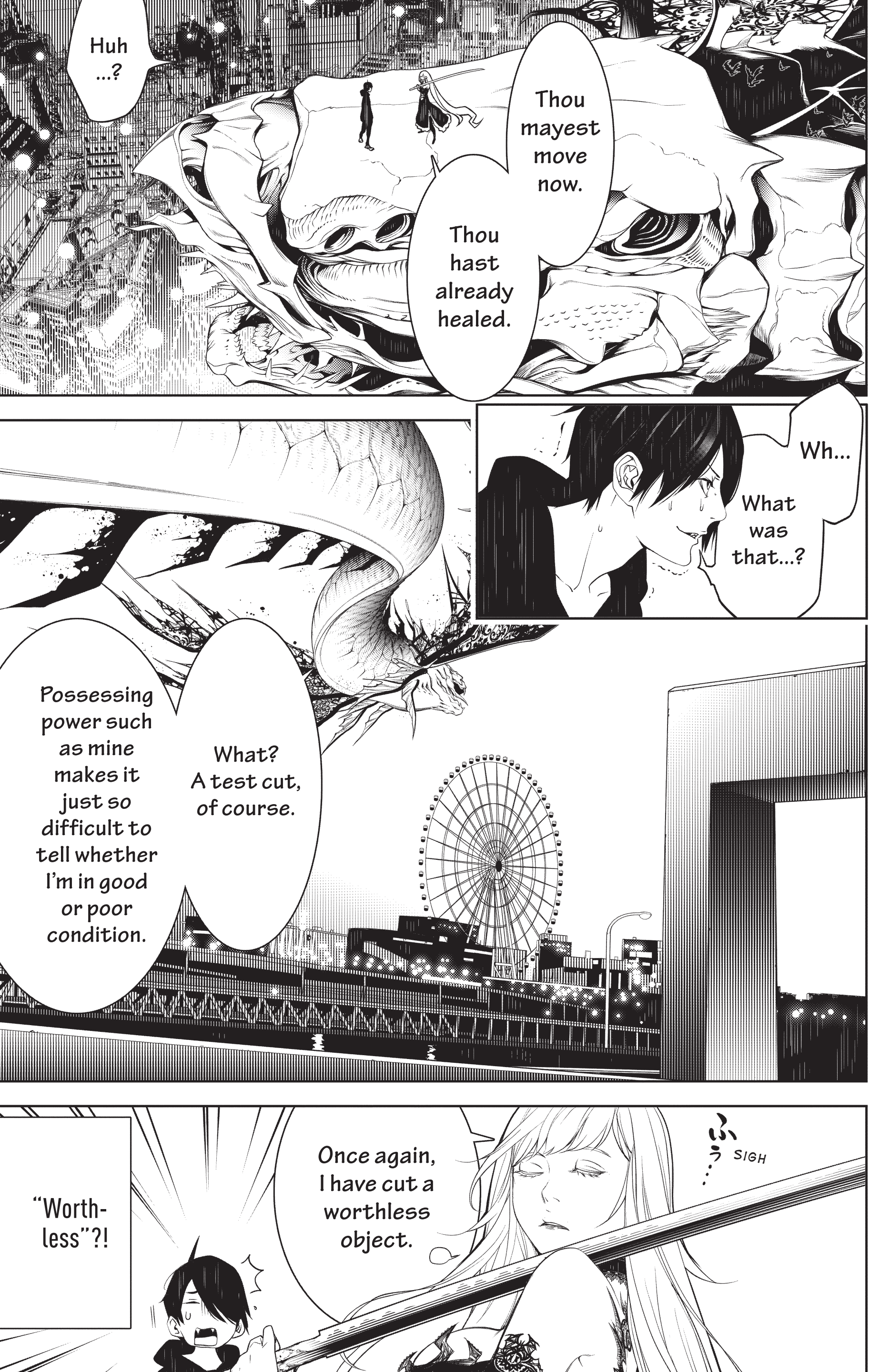
THMP

BAKEMONOGATARI

PAP
THMP

SKRRK
DZZT
BOOM

...!
Don't move.
...Does it hurt?
FSSSSHHH
THP
KSSHT
Ngh—
...N...
...No.
...
Hm.
THMP
Then it does seem that my powers have fully recovered.
?!
...

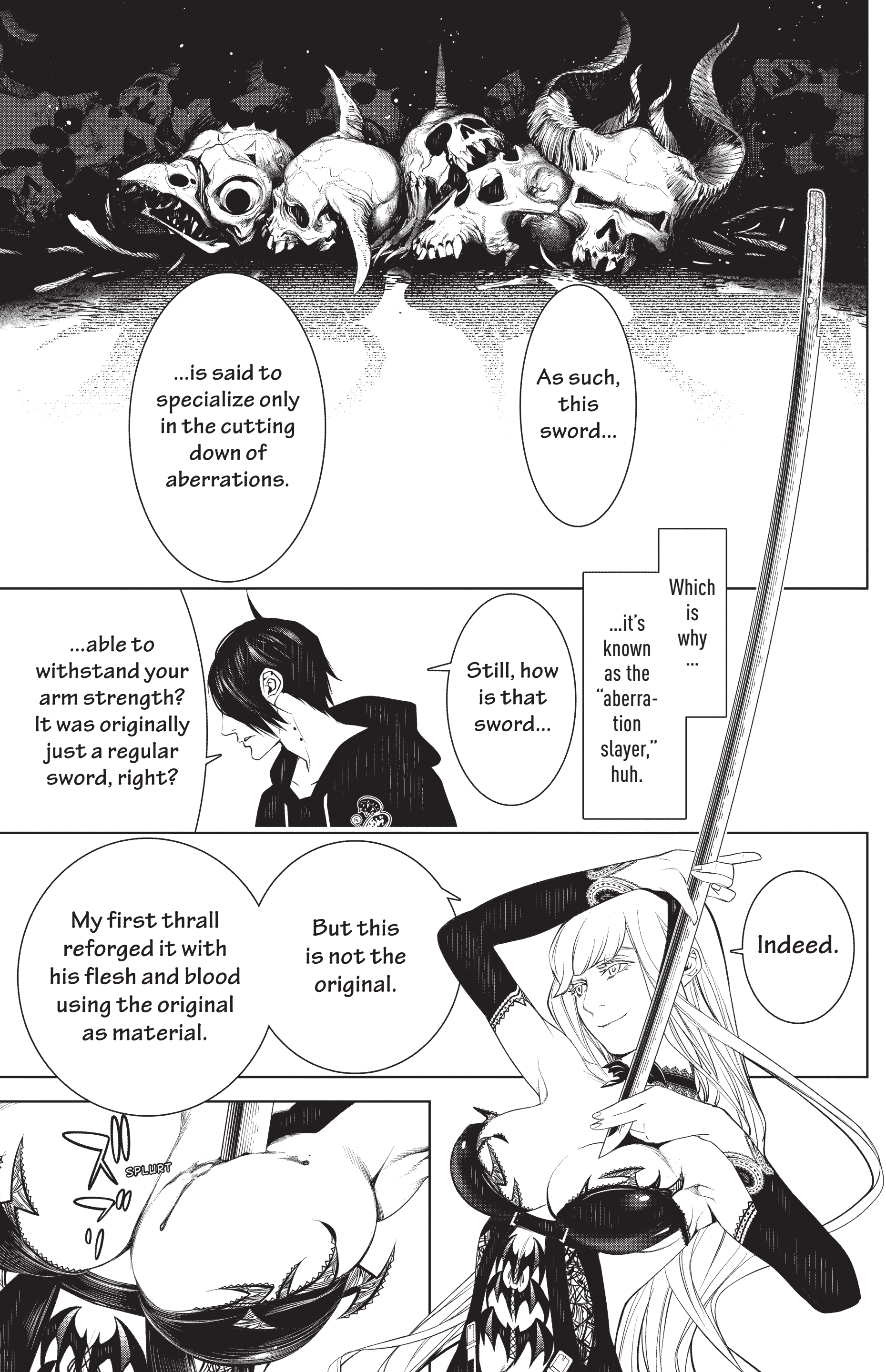


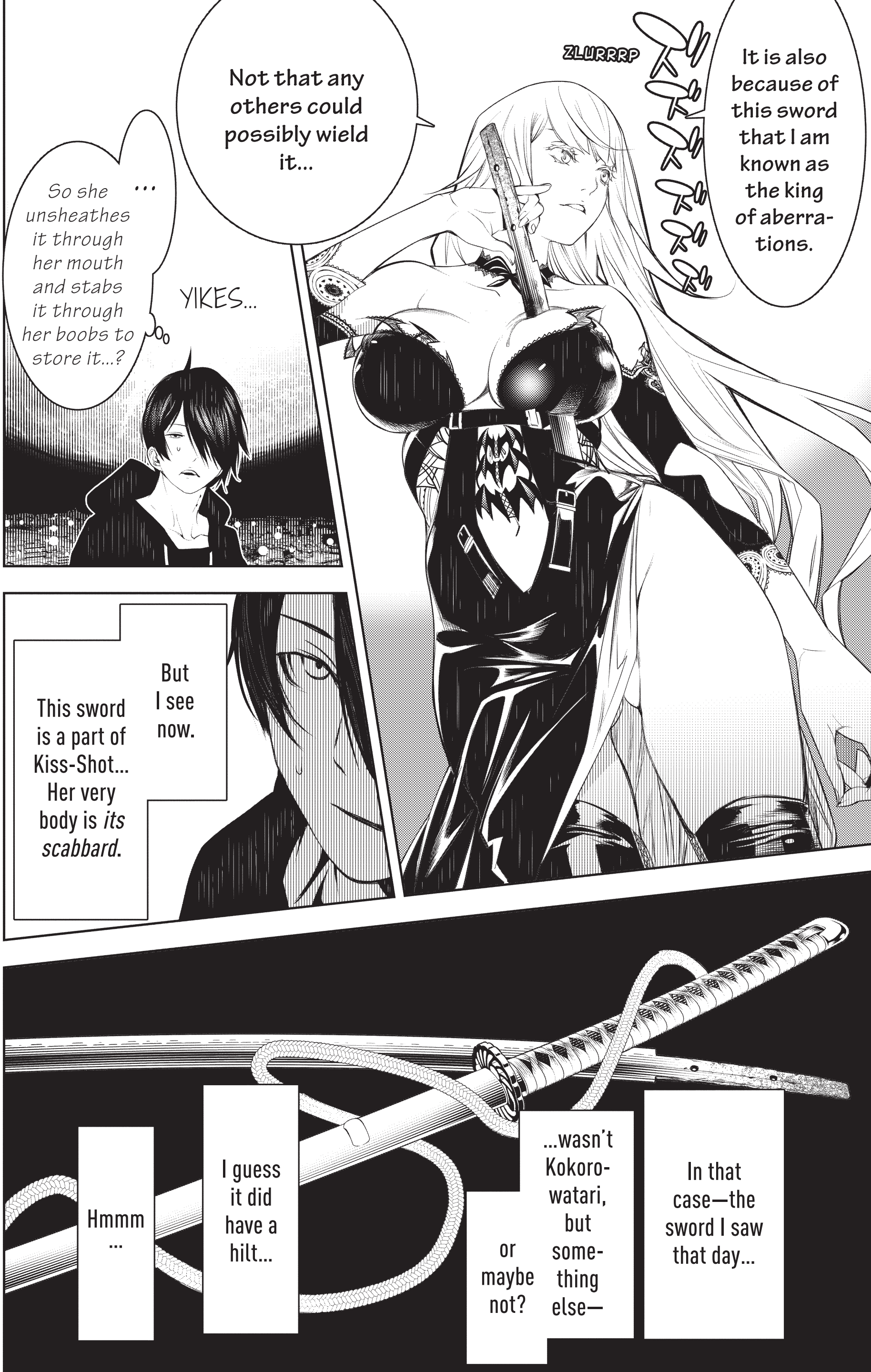
Huh ...?
Thou mayest move now.
Thou hast already healed.
Wh...
What was that...?
What? A test cut, of course.
Possessing power such as mine makes it just so difficult to tell whether I'm in good or poor condition.
ふう SIGH
Once again, I have cut a worthless object.
"Worth-less"?!

AND WAIT!
COULD YOU PLEASE STOP PULLING THIS MOVE ON ME EVERY SINGLE TIME?!
AFTER OSHINO GOT ME SO WORKED UP AND SCARED, TOO!
FLAIL
FLAIL
NOW YOU GOT ME ALL WORRIED THAT YOU WERE GOING TO SAY SOMETHING LIKE, "AND I AM THY FIFTH OPPONENT!"
Ah. It must indeed be the natural reaction to seeing thy visage.
EXCUSE ME?!
WHO USES A HUMAN BODY TO TEST OUT A SWORD, ANYWAY?! YOU MAKE IT SOUND LIKE YOU USED ME BECAUSE I JUST HAPPENED TO BE AROUND!
Aye.

Thou didst happen to be around...
...!
There was no need for it to be thee.
I could have used one of the buildings in the area.
A BUILDING?!
But if by some means I was not in peak condition, my hand may have strayed and the people inside...
...
I get it.
Just cut me. Promise you'll pick me every time.

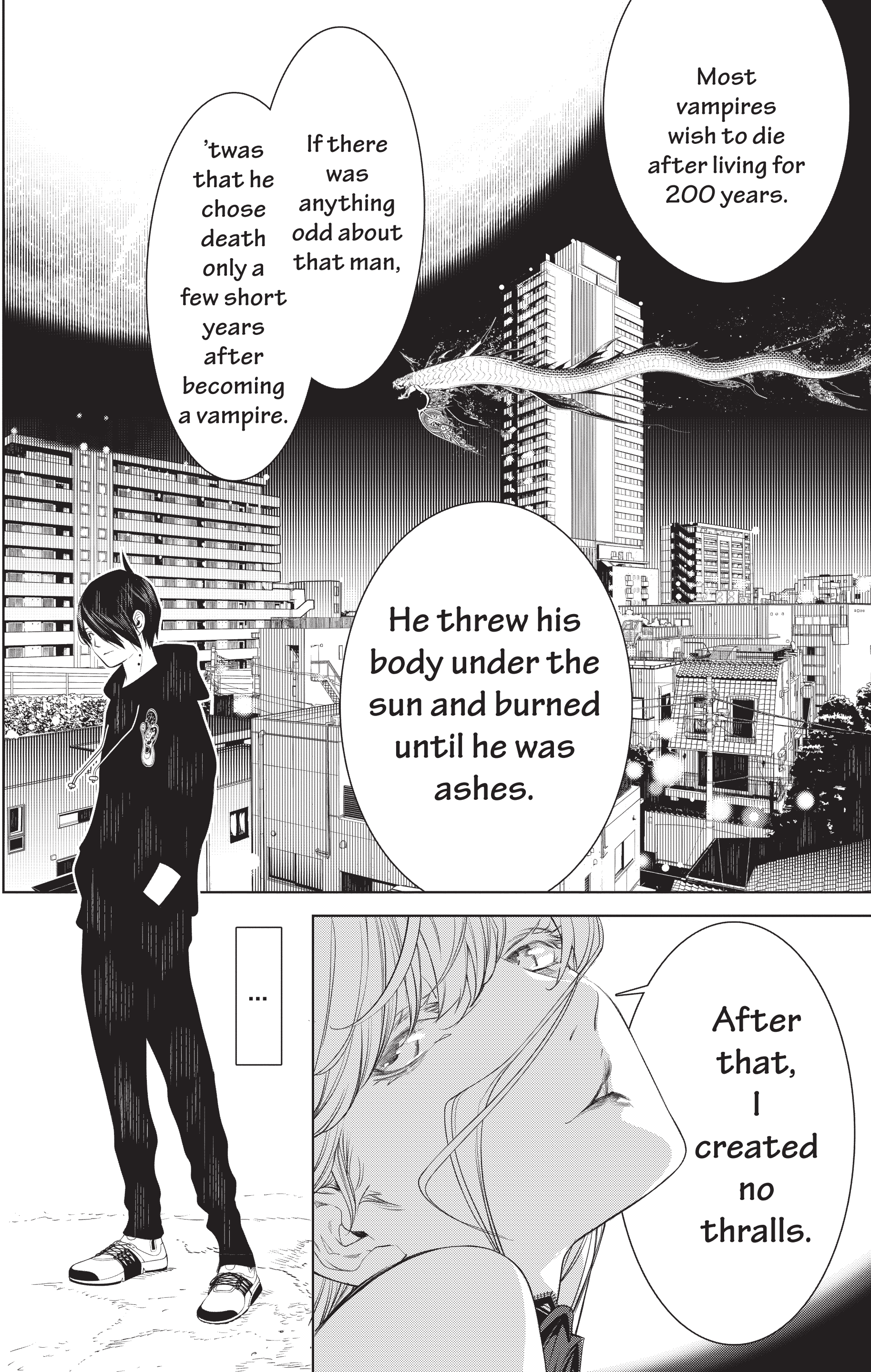
Just give me some warning next time, okay?
I'll take off my clothes first.
I kinda liked this, you know...
You fear it would be cut?
Huh?
...Wait, what?
Kokoro-watari's edge...
...is inarguably sharp.
So much so that whatever it cuts pulls itself back together with time.
Of course, only because it was wielded by one with my skill at arms.
'Tis a problem, of course.
I can cut and cut, but my target always returns to as it was.


As such, this sword...
...is said to specialize only in the cutting down of aberrations.
Which is why ...
...it's known as the "aberration slayer," huh.
Still, how is that sword...
...able to withstand your arm strength? It was originally just a regular sword, right?
Indeed.
But this is not the original.
My first thrall reforged it with his flesh and blood using the original as material.
SPLURT



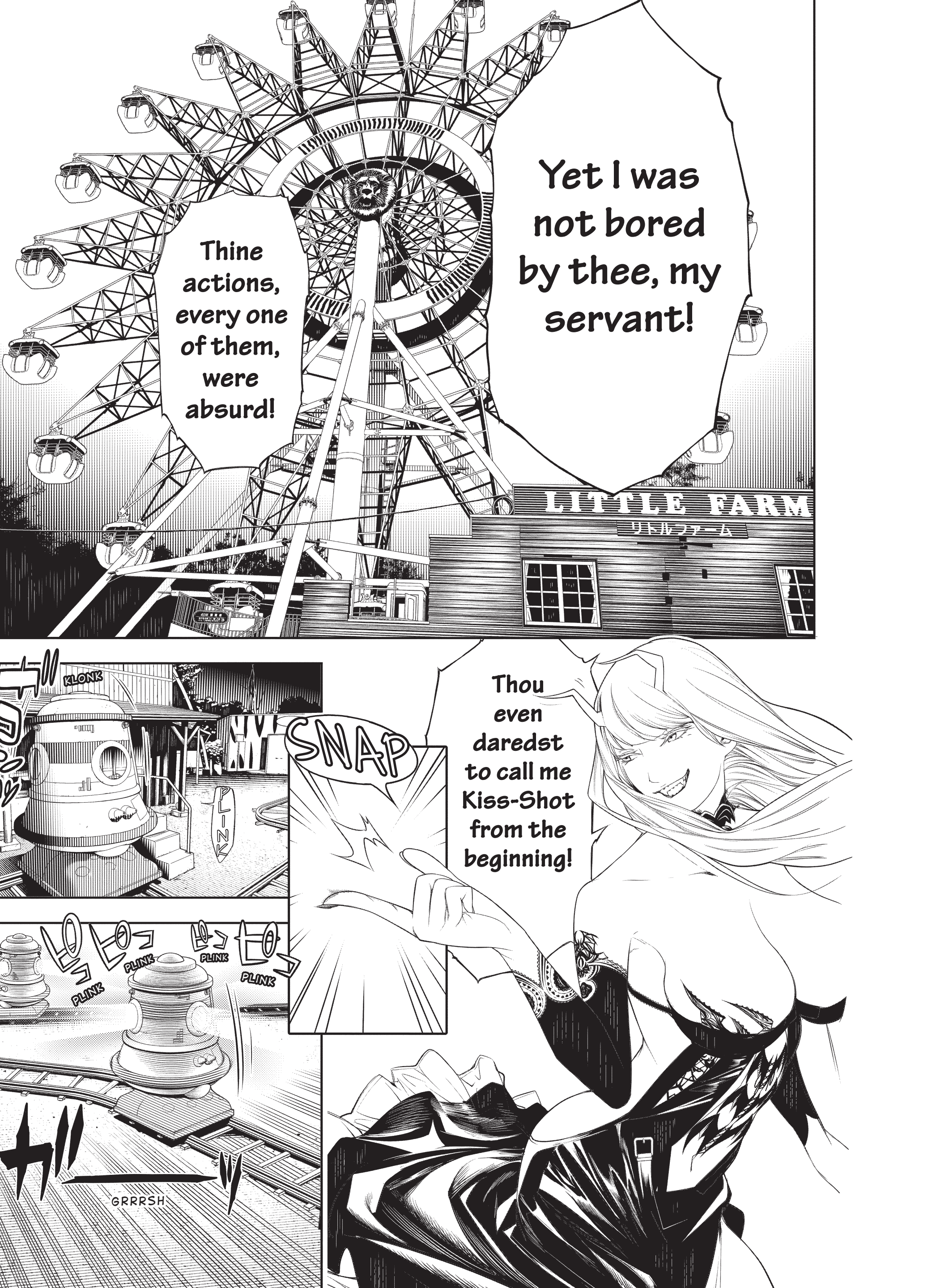
ZLURRRP
It is also because of this sword that I am known as the king of aberra-tions.
Not that any others could possibly wield it...
...
So she unsheathes it through her mouth and stabs it through her boobs to store it...?
YIKES...
But I see now.
This sword is a part of Kiss-Shot... Her very body is *its scabbard*.
In that case—the sword I saw that day...
...wasn't Kokoro-watari, but some-thing else—
or maybe not?
I guess it did have a hilt...
Hmmm ...

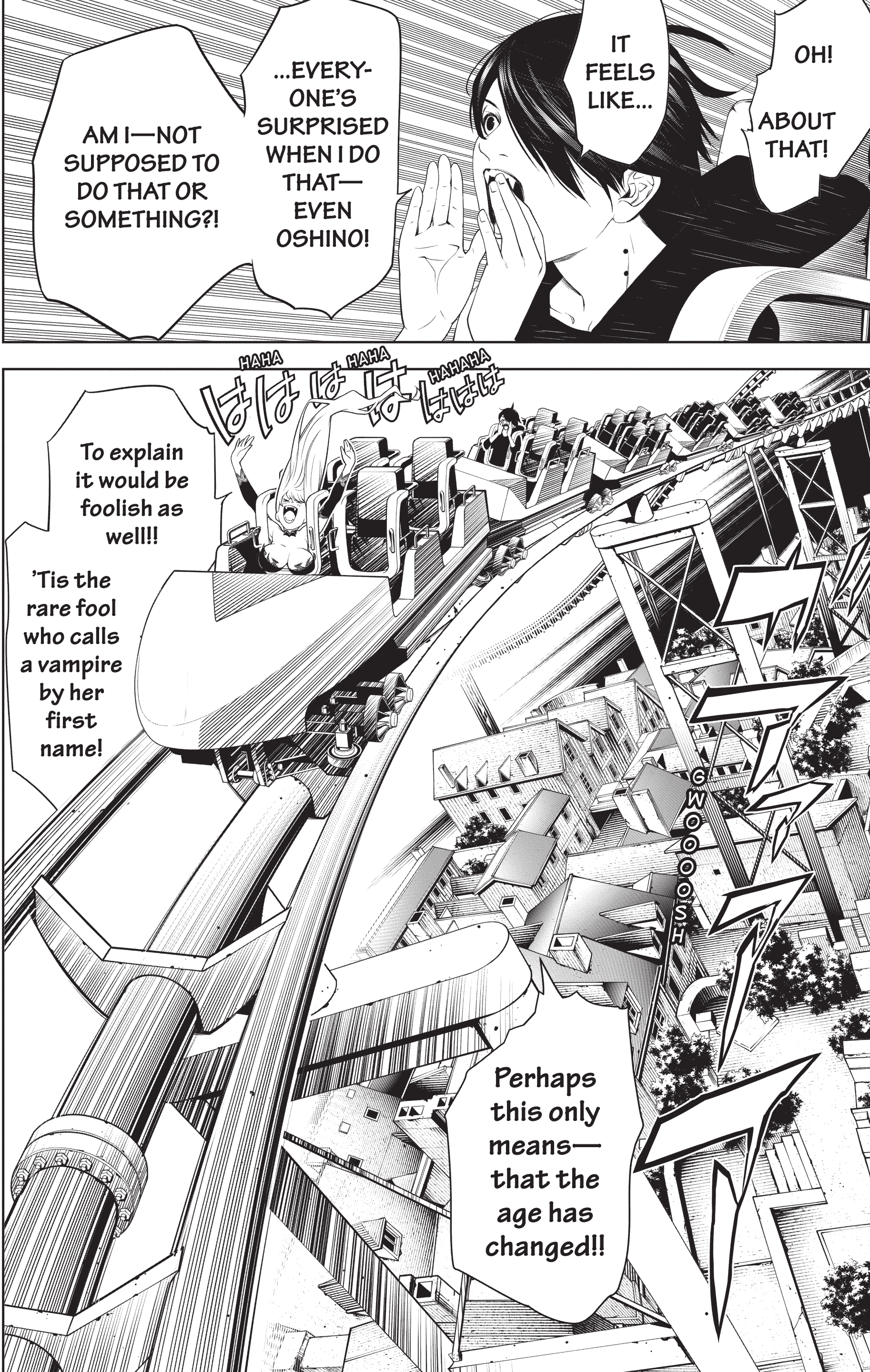
That sword's former owner—
Uhh ... Seishiro, was it?
If someone like him died, does that mean—he was slain by a vampire hunter?
Suicide ended him.
A common reason— one accounting for nine-tenths of vampire deaths.
They speak of dying of boredom,
do they not?


Most vampires wish to die after living for 200 years.
If there was anything odd about that man,
'twas that he chose death only a few short years after becoming a vampire.
He threw his body under the sun and burned until he was ashes.
After that, I created no thralls.
...

He died before my eyes.
He made a display of it.
He flaunt-ed it.

...
Didn't you...
...get bored yourself?
You've lived not just 200 years—but 500...
Ha ha!
How could I not be bored?!
I've had nothing to do!!!


Yet I was not bored by thee, my servant!
Thine actions, every one of them, were absurd!
LITTLE FARM
リトルファーム
Thou even daredst to call me Kiss-Shot from the beginning!
SNAP
KLONK
PLINK
PLINK
PLINK
PLINK
PLINK
GRRRSH


OH!
ABOUT THAT!
IT FEELS LIKE...
...EVERY-ONE'S SURPRISED WHEN I DO THAT—EVEN OSHINO!
AM I—NOT SUPPOSED TO DO THAT OR SOMETHING?!
ははは はは ははは
HAHA HAHA HAHAHA
To explain it would be foolish as well!!
'Tis the rare fool who calls a vampire by her first name!
GWOOOOOSH
Perhaps this only means—that the age has changed!!

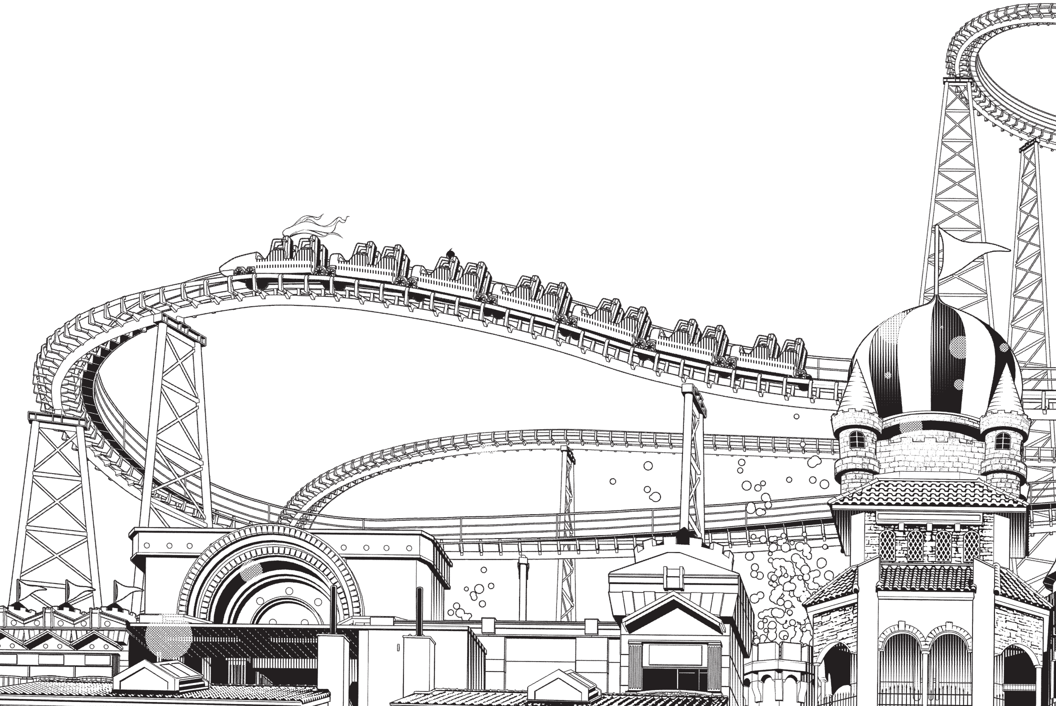
Enough about me! I'd like to hear thy story!
Thou cannot have spent all of it idly! Try to amuse me!
Huh ?!
What ?!
Amuse you?
Oof... What a way to put me on the spot.
She's set the bar pretty high as far as amusing stories...
PLAP
Ah, um... Okay!
Then how about a funny little story?!

There once was a man, and though he was a decent young man, he had a weakness for liquor. If that was all, you could write it off as a personal foible, but one day, he drove while drunk and struck a young girl crossing on a green light with her hand raised in the air.

Drunk as he was, he didn't notice that he'd hit the girl until the next morning when he saw the blood on his car's bumper in the parking lot of his apartment complex. He then learned through the newspaper that the name of the girl he struck was "Rika."

Turning himself in would be the right thing to do, but the man hesitated.

"There should have been no witnesses, so if I just stay quiet..."



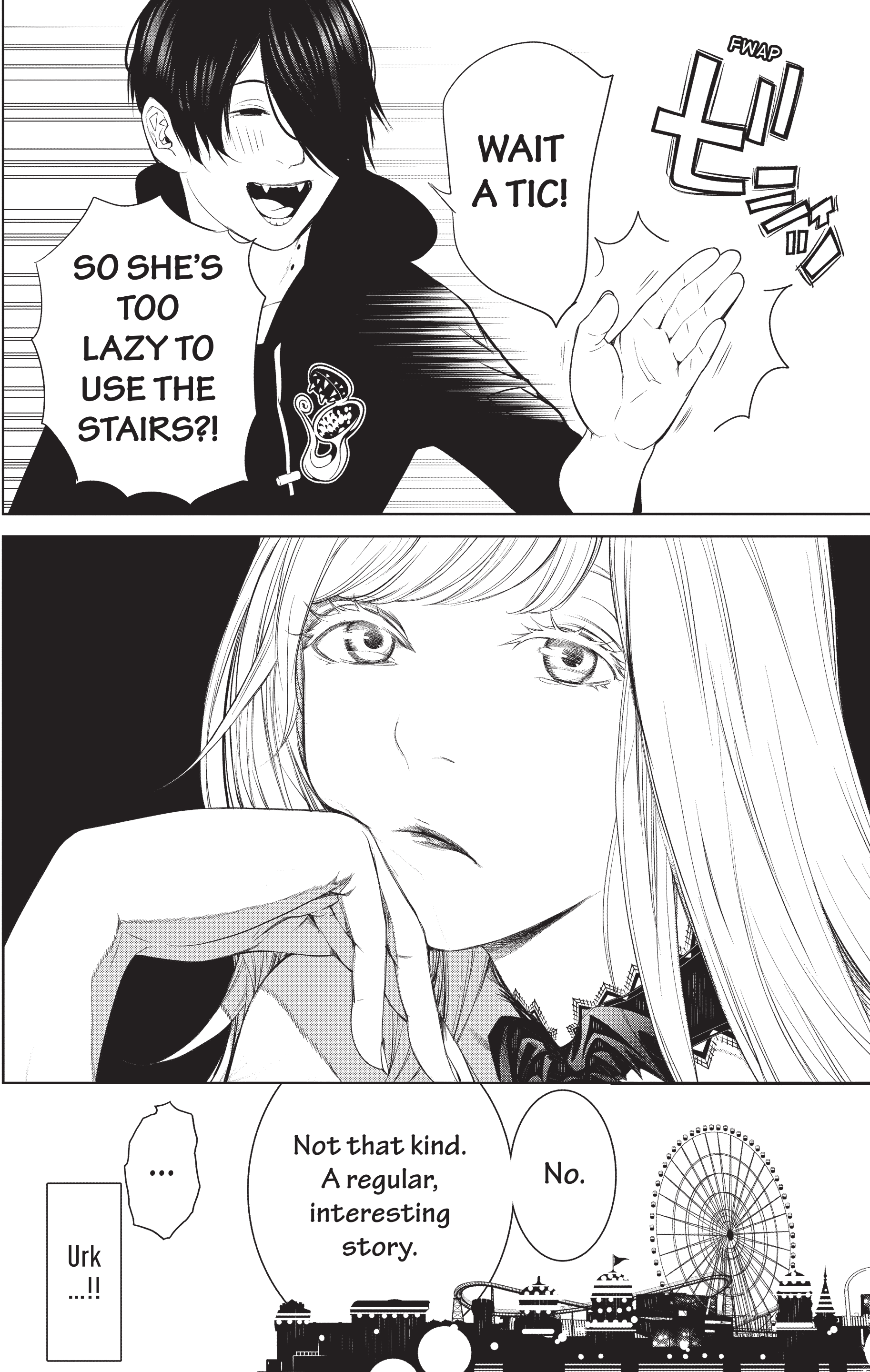
While he wrestled with such thoughts, night came—and that was when the phone in his apartment rang. "My name'zh Rika. I'm in fwont of youh apahtment," the voice simply said, before the line died. "Rika?! That's impossible!"

The man began to tremble. The voice had the unmistakable lisp of a young child. Could it be the girl he ran over, the one that should be dead? Then the phone rang for a second time.

"My name'zh Rika. I'm on the firsht flooh now."

The man's room was on the fifth! Surely, that was where "Rika" was headed. Upon realizing this, the man's trembling gave way to terror. Then, a third call.

"My name'zh Rika. I jusht got on the ewevatoh."


FWAP
WAIT A TIC!
SO SHE'S TOO LAZY TO USE THE STAIRS?!
No.
Not that kind. A regular, interesting story.
...
Urk ...!!

The Story So Far:
My lengthy joke just bombed.
D·A·R·K·N·E·S·S
Agh ...!
THROB
THROB
What did I do wrong ...?!
Was it my raconteur-like delivery? Was that even more grating than I imagined...?

FWSHH
I can't give up here.
FWOO
Not after being dis-missed like that...!
PART TWO!
AS WILLIAM S. CLARK ONCE SAID!
"BOYS, BE ANCHO-VIES!"

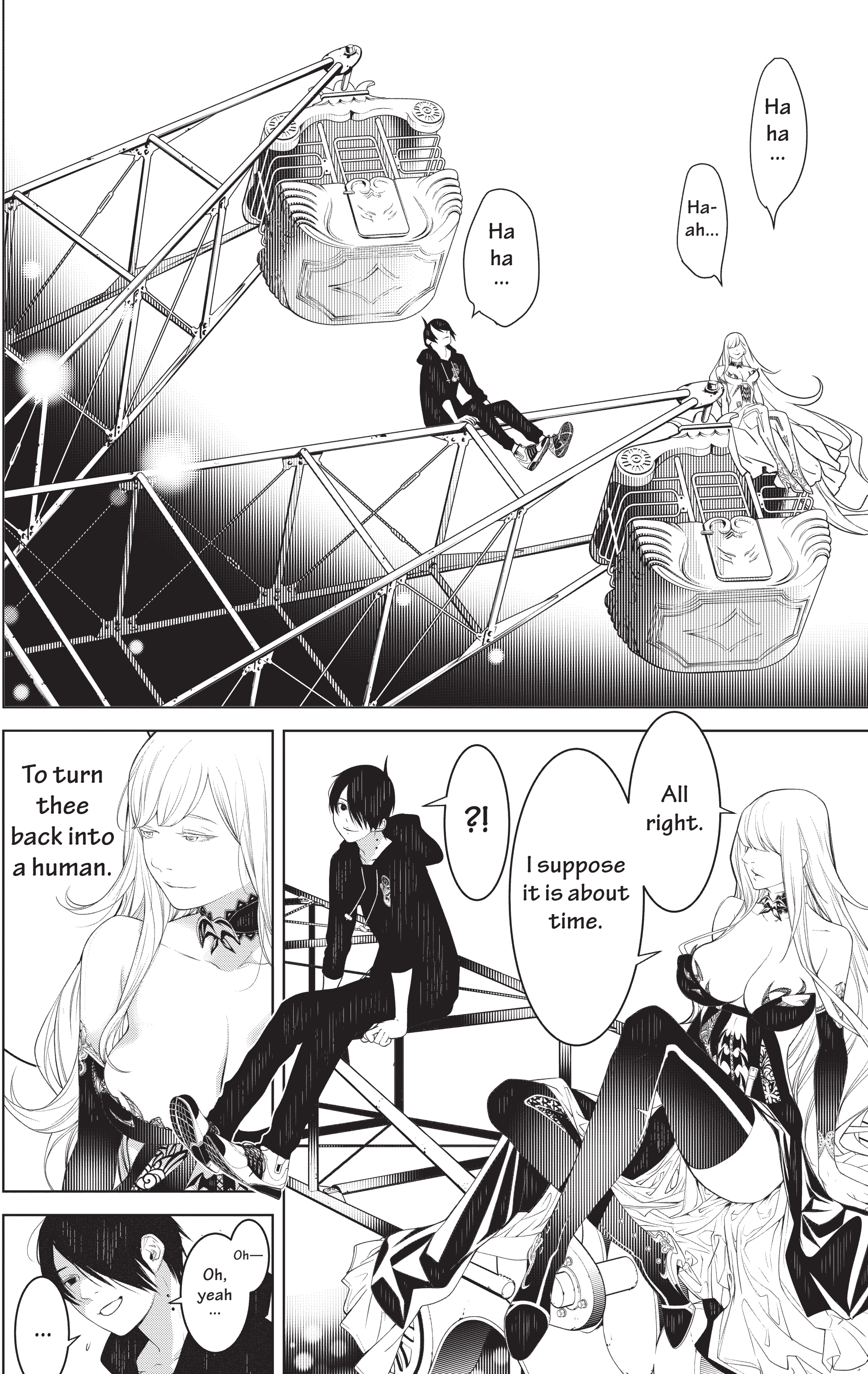
Insu-latle.
BWOOOOOSH
AH!
And if you're trying to reflect something as icy as that was, you gotta go with Bounce.
Or at least, that's the self-deprecating retort I'd like to use here, but I can't so much as do that...!!
CHATTER
CHATTER
How do you know a reference like that...?!
How... How humiliating...!
CHATTER
CHATTER

I can't turn back now...
I'm doing whatever it takes to make her laugh!!!
And so...
...we talked and talked...
...until the clock struck midnight, bringing the date...
...to April 7th.
Which is to say my final night of spring break.
Heh.

ONE!
TWO!
THREE!
FOUR!
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
FLAMIN-GO!
While it felt like Kiss-Shot's cold eyes were brimming with an intent to stifle my parade of silly jokes...
AND SO THIS IS HOW I ANSWERED THAT SOCIAL STUDIES QUESTION!
THE D IN THE ABCD LINE—
STANDS FOR DEUTSCH-LAND!
Haha-ha!
How amus-ing!
So—
what is this "ABCD line"?

We'd found ourselves in one of those moods where anything is funny.
Both of us started to erupt in laughter at whatever either of us said.
I think most of it...
...was meaningless chatter.
I think our conversation was totally devoid of substance.

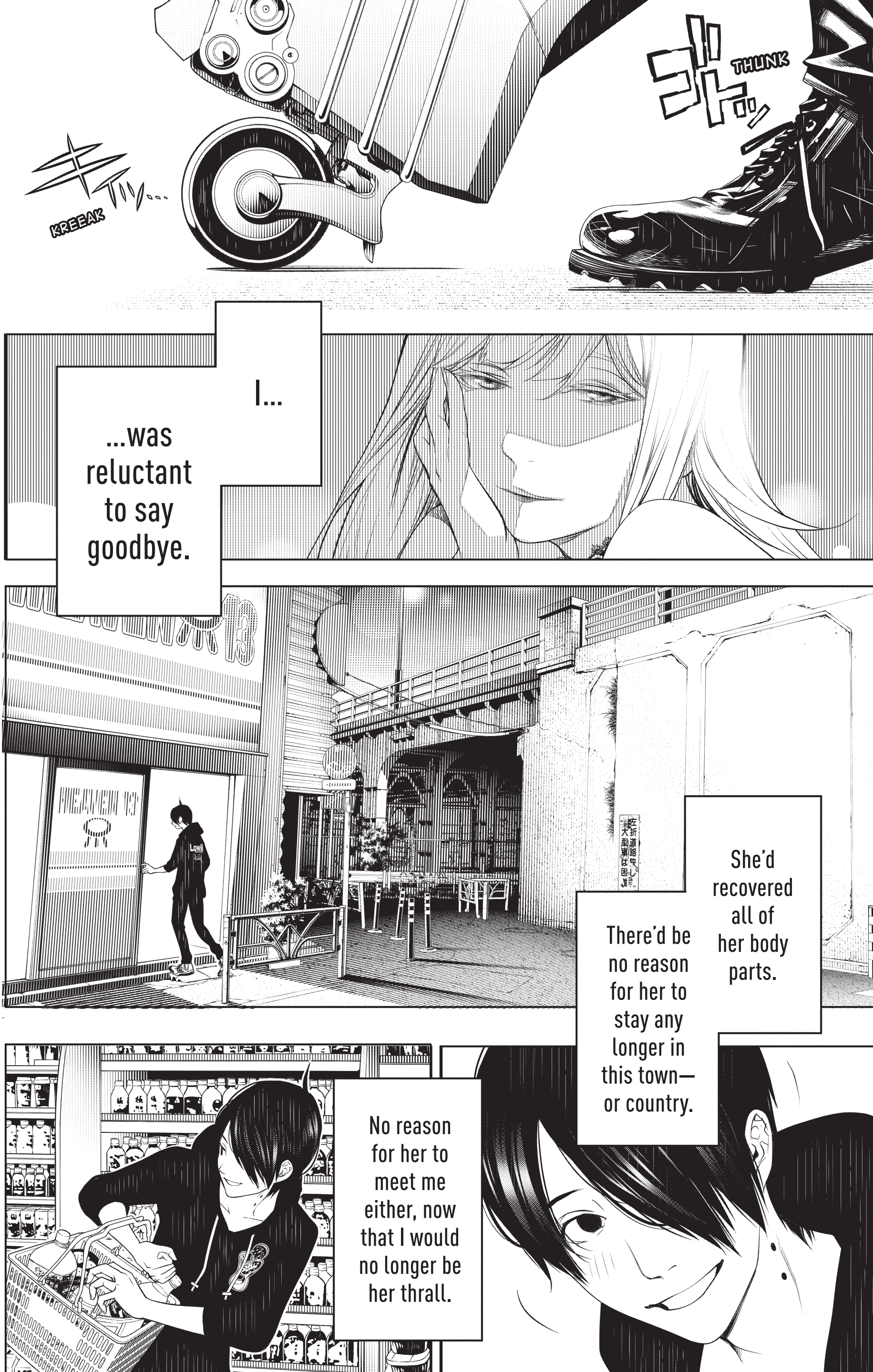
But probably—
when I look back on this spring break...
...the most vivid memory I'll have from it—
the one I'll never forget—
is going to be talking to Kiss-Shot here, on this day, at this time.
I'll likely remember the fact that we laughed together.


Ha ha ...
Ha-ah...
Ha ha ...
All right.
I suppose it is about time.
?!
To turn thee back into a human.
Oh—
Oh, yeah ...
...

Speaking of which—didn't your first thrall ever say that he wanted to turn back into a human?
Hmm...
At that time, I was in fact unable to turn him back into a human.
I plan to use the lessons I learned then this time around.
Art thou prepared?
Oh.
Er...
Well, actually, all that laughing...
...has made me a little hungry.
Could we head back to the abandoned cram school?
I don't know where I'd find any convenience stores around here, anyway.

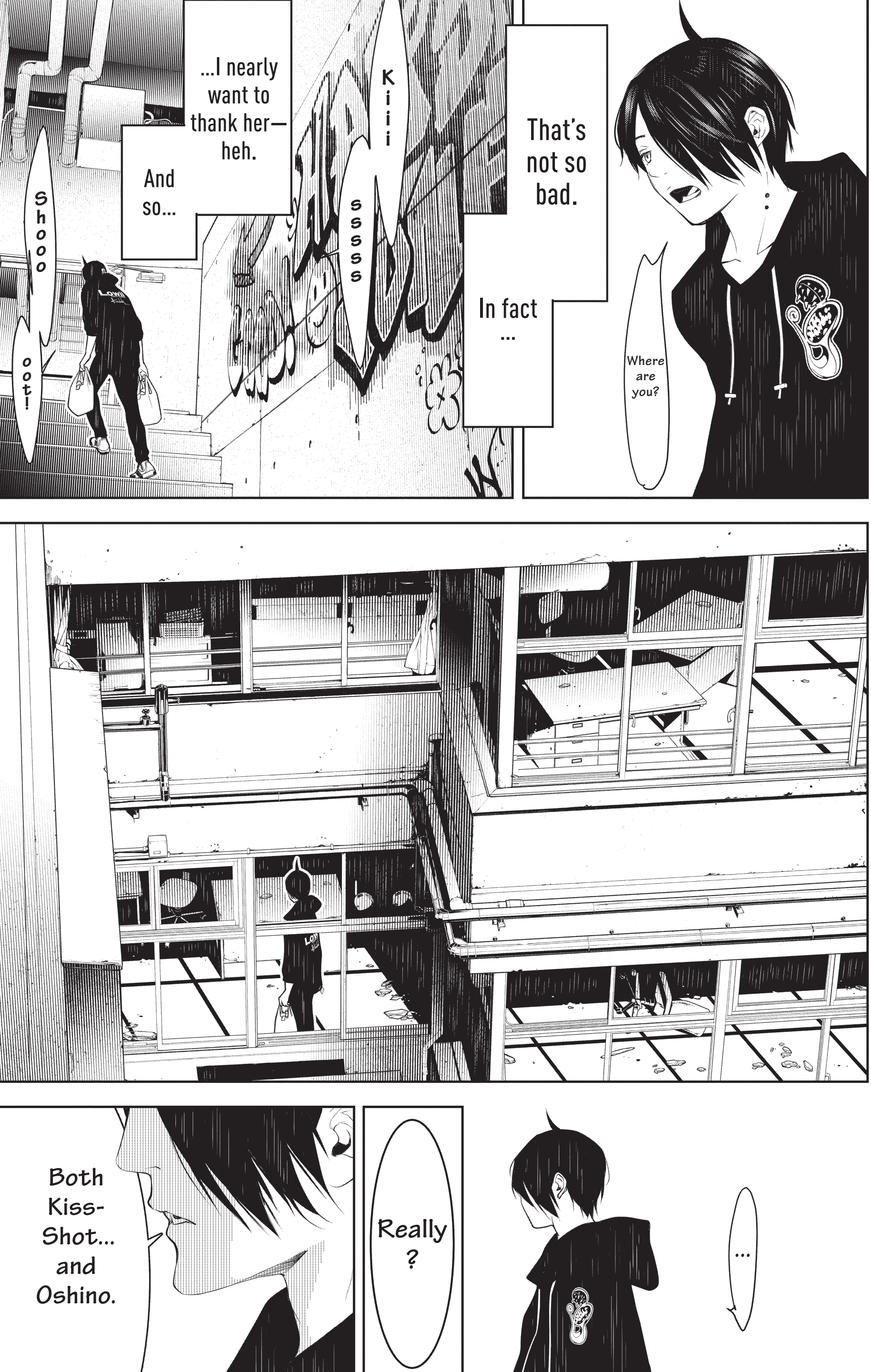
Very well.
I suppose it would be difficult for thee to bring thy rations here now.
My rations?
What's that supposed to mean?
I guess convenience store food isn't the best, but still...
Well, it's just...
...it's my last night as a vampire...
I think this is me being reluctant to quit being one.
Follow thy heart.
Thy sentiment of wanting to remain my servant for a while longer—
I shall humor it.

Anything you want to eat?
I've neither likes nor dislikes.
Okay.
Wait just a second.
Lowii
upper pitcher
How much money do I have left, anyway...?
I guess— I can use whatever I have left.
What I said...
...wasn't a lie.

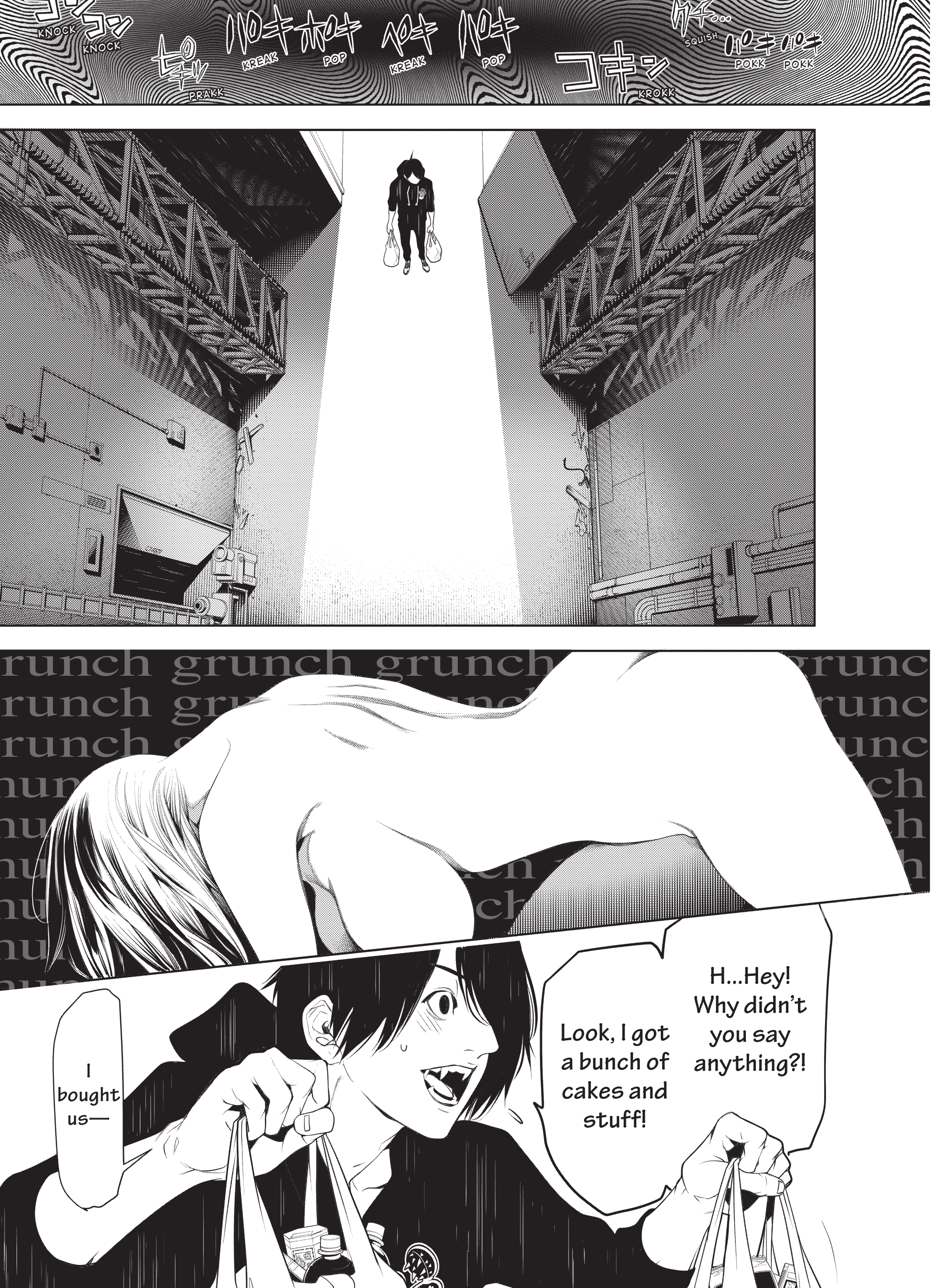

THUNK
KREEAK
I...
...was reluctant to say goodbye.
HEAVEN 13
She'd recovered all of her body parts.
There'd be no reason for her to stay any longer in this town—or country.
No reason for her to meet me either, now that I would no longer be her thrall.

Plenty-O-Veg Salad
195 yen
210 yen
Dressing sold separately
...
Plenty-O-Veg Salad
195 yen
210 yen
Dressing sold separately
THMP
THMP
THD
I'll hold a farewell party.
I'll go out with as big of a bang as possible.

Kiss-Sho...
Looking back on it now,
maybe it hadn't been such a bad spring break for me.
...
Hel-loooo?
If any-thing,
it was full of experiences most people couldn't have even if they sought them out.
I was able to go on adventures with a beautiful woman as thrilling, suspicious, and bewitch-ing as her.

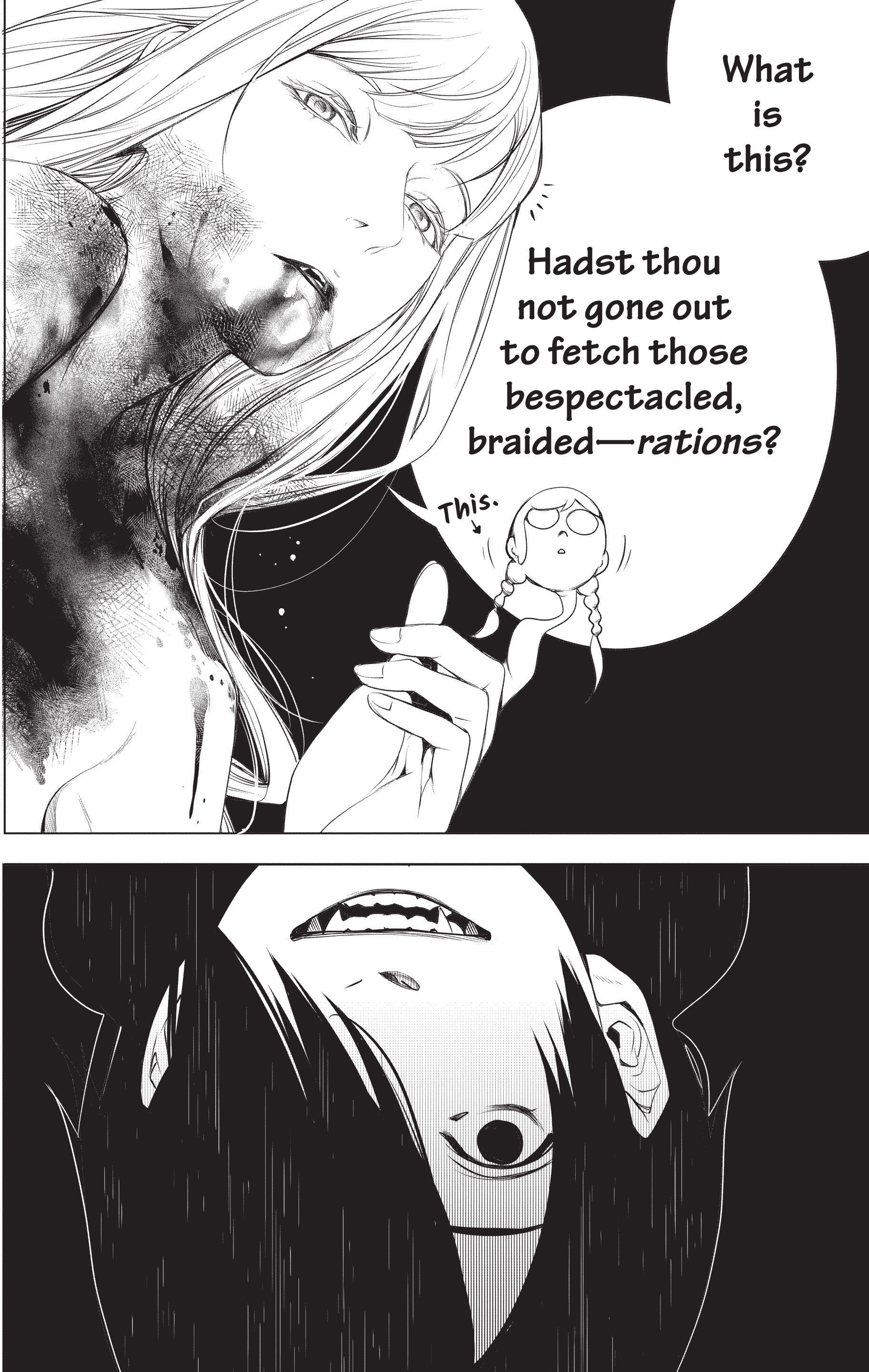

That's not so bad.
In fact ...
Where are you?
...I nearly want to thank her—heh.
And so...
Kiii ssssss
Shoooo oot!
...
Really?
Both Kiss-Shot... and Oshino.

Can't you at least say goodbye when you leave...?
SNIFFLE
ぐす
...?!
KRAK
KREAK
POP
KRAK
PRAKK
PROKK
PREEK
PRRP
PRRP PRRP
PRRP
STAIRS
Lowii



POKK POKK
SQUISH
KROKK
POP
KREAK
POP
KREAK
PRAKK
KNOCK KNOCK
grunch grunch grunch
H...Hey! Why didn't you say anything?!
Look, I got a bunch of cakes and stuff!
I bought us—

Ah, back earlier than I expected— neverthe- less...
Did I not tell thee? Have some manners and excuse thyself when a lady is eating.
CHRROMP
FWOOMP
KRAKK



What is this?
Hadst thou not gone out to fetch those bespectacled, braided—*rations*?
This.

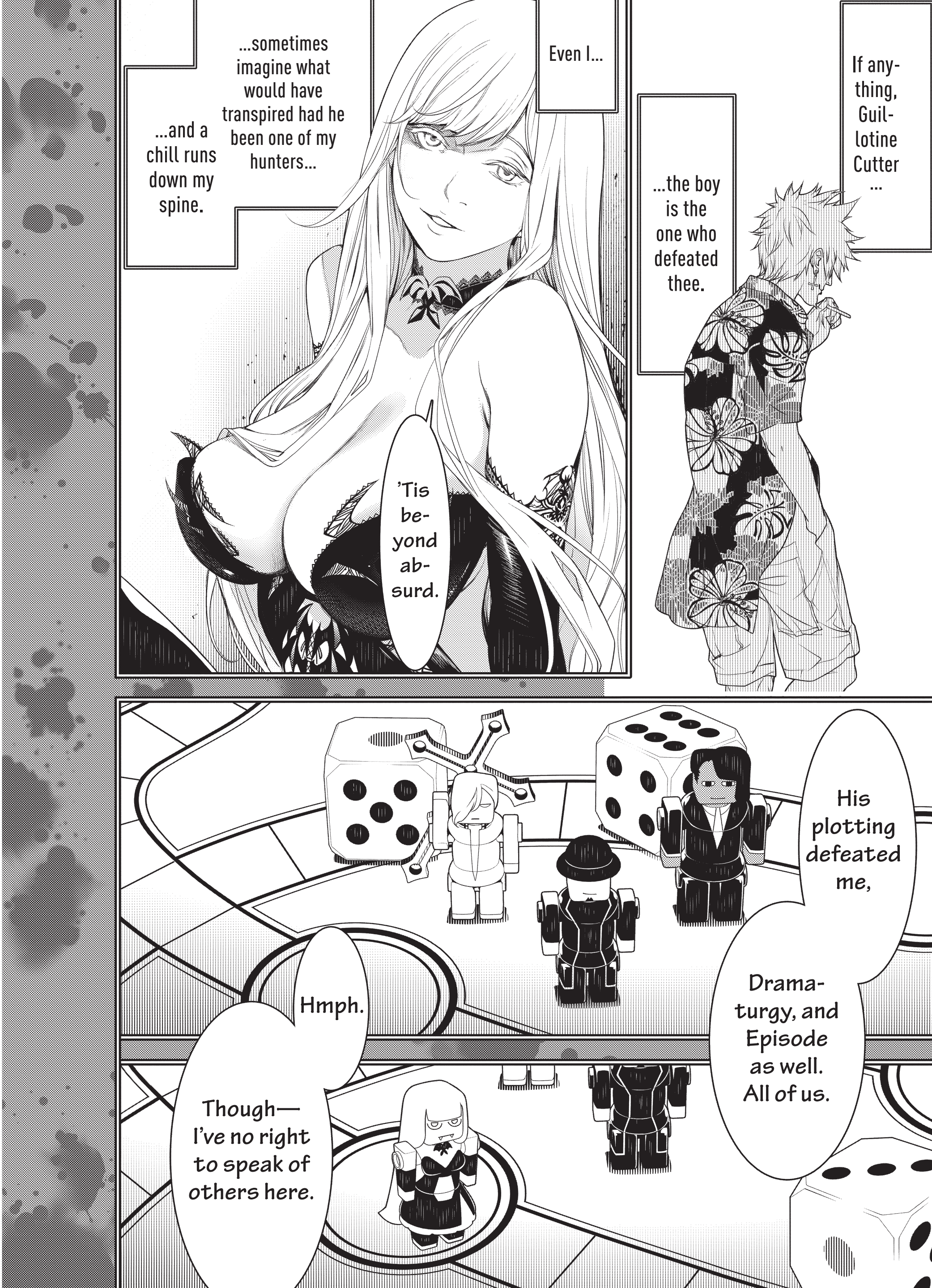
BAKEMONOGATARI

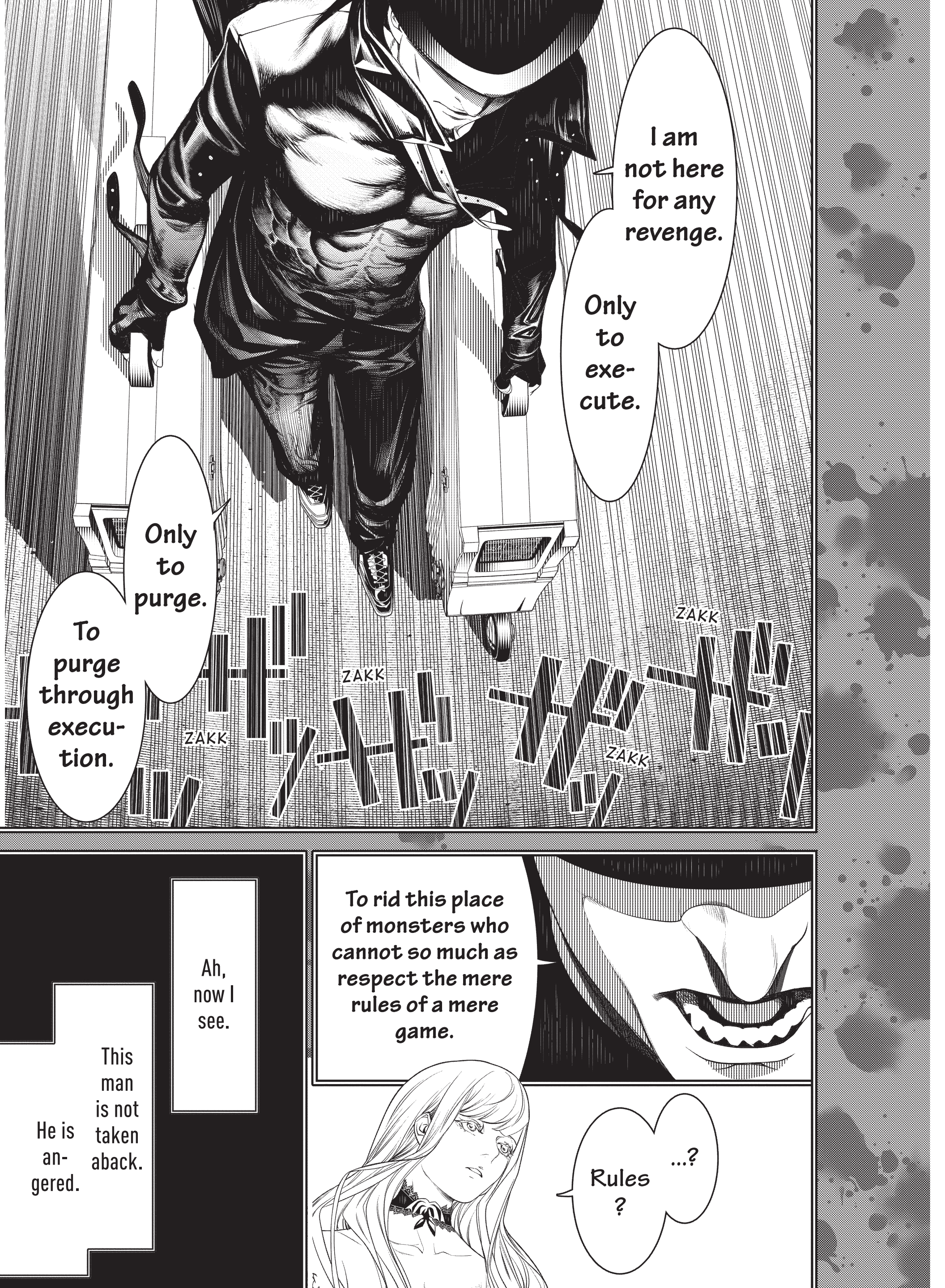
Anything you want to eat?
I'm gonna run to the conve-nience store.
Lowii
upper pitcher
I've neither likes nor dislikes.
Okay.
Wait just a second.
...
...Hm.

KRAKK
KREEAK
What's this?
Thou waitedst on us,
Guillotine Cutter?
No, I was taken aback.
By a ridiculous exchange between demon and human.
ZAKK
ZAKK
ZAKK

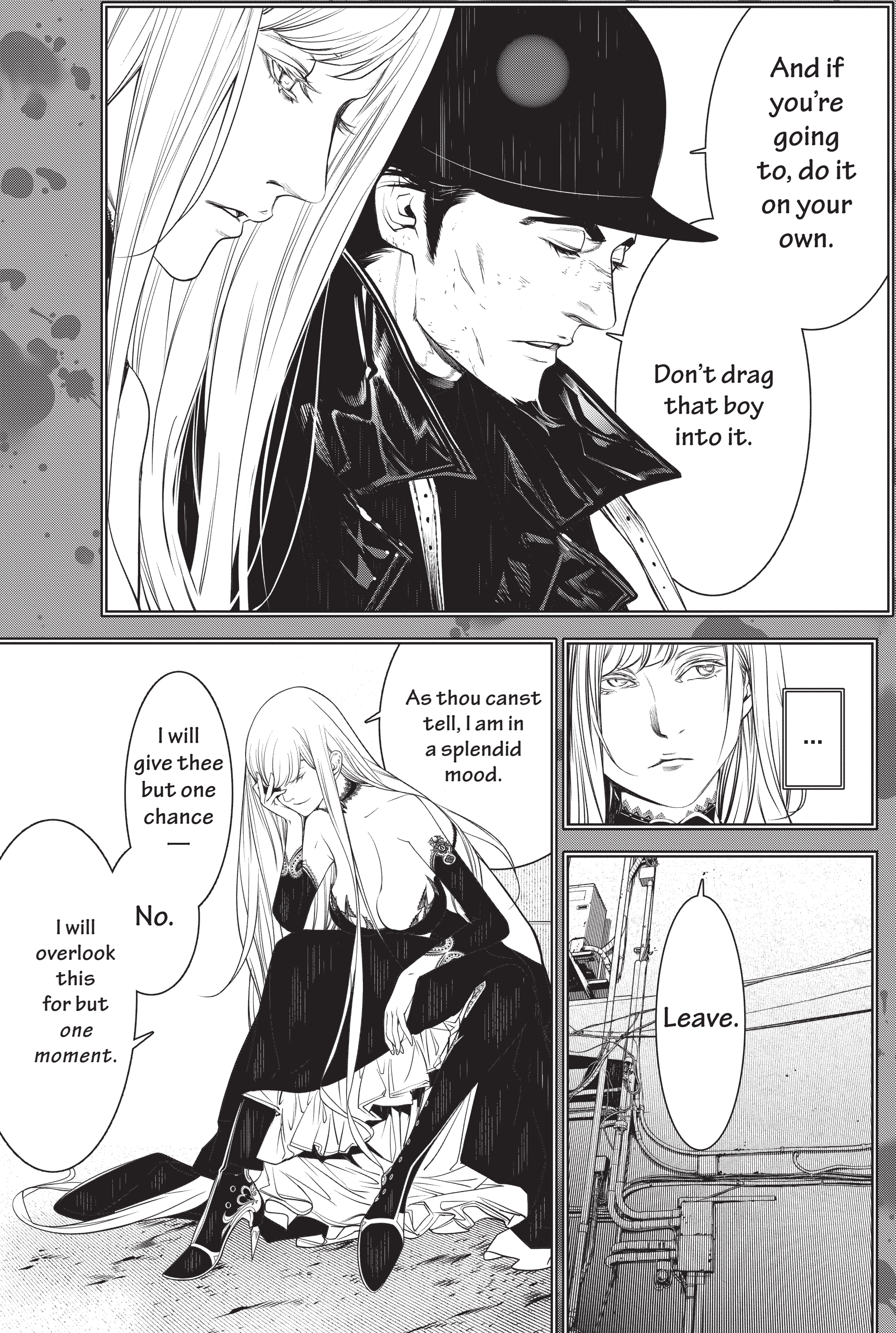
No.
Now that I mention it... I suppose you're both demons.
So the boy's barriers are unable to hide me at my full powers.
Hardly a surprise, though.
So?
Why hast thou come?
Hadst thou not hastened away and fled after thy humiliating defeat to my servant?
I did lose.
As God.
ZAKK
ZAKK
ZAKK

I have not lost as a man.
Not to you.
Certainly not to you.
And definitely not to you. Not in any way!
And of course,
not to that boy, either.
...Thou seekest revenge?
I would suggest otherwise.
This is all but a game, after all. Is it not?
Hmph.
Is that not correct, Guillotine Cutter?
Having victory and defeat decided by a game like that...
...must be unbearable.


If any-thing, Guil-lotine Cutter ...
...the boy is the one who defeated thee.
Even I...
...sometimes imagine what would have transpired had he been one of my hunters...
...and a chill runs down my spine.
'Tis be-yond ab-surd.
His plotting defeated me,
Drama-turgy, and Episode as well. All of us.
Hmph.
Though— I've no right to speak of others here.


I am not here for any revenge.
Only to execute.
Only to purge.
To purge through execution.
ZAKK
ZAKK
ZAKK
ZAKK
To rid this place of monsters who cannot so much as respect the mere rules of a mere game.
...?
Rules?
Ah, now I see.
This man is not taken aback.
He is angered.

...
What's the matter?!
Come!!
Human emotions are such a difficult thing to under-stand—
I...
sorr...
I'm very sorr...
...ry, sorry.
TREMBLE
Pree.
Pree!
Though it is hard to tell which rule he believes was broken.
Just a little longer, Guillo... Wait.
Soon...
...all will end as thou wisht.
Sor-ry, but I just can't wait.
...?
Because there's no way that will happen.
You aren't going to turn that boy back into a human.
That—is something you cannot do.
THMP

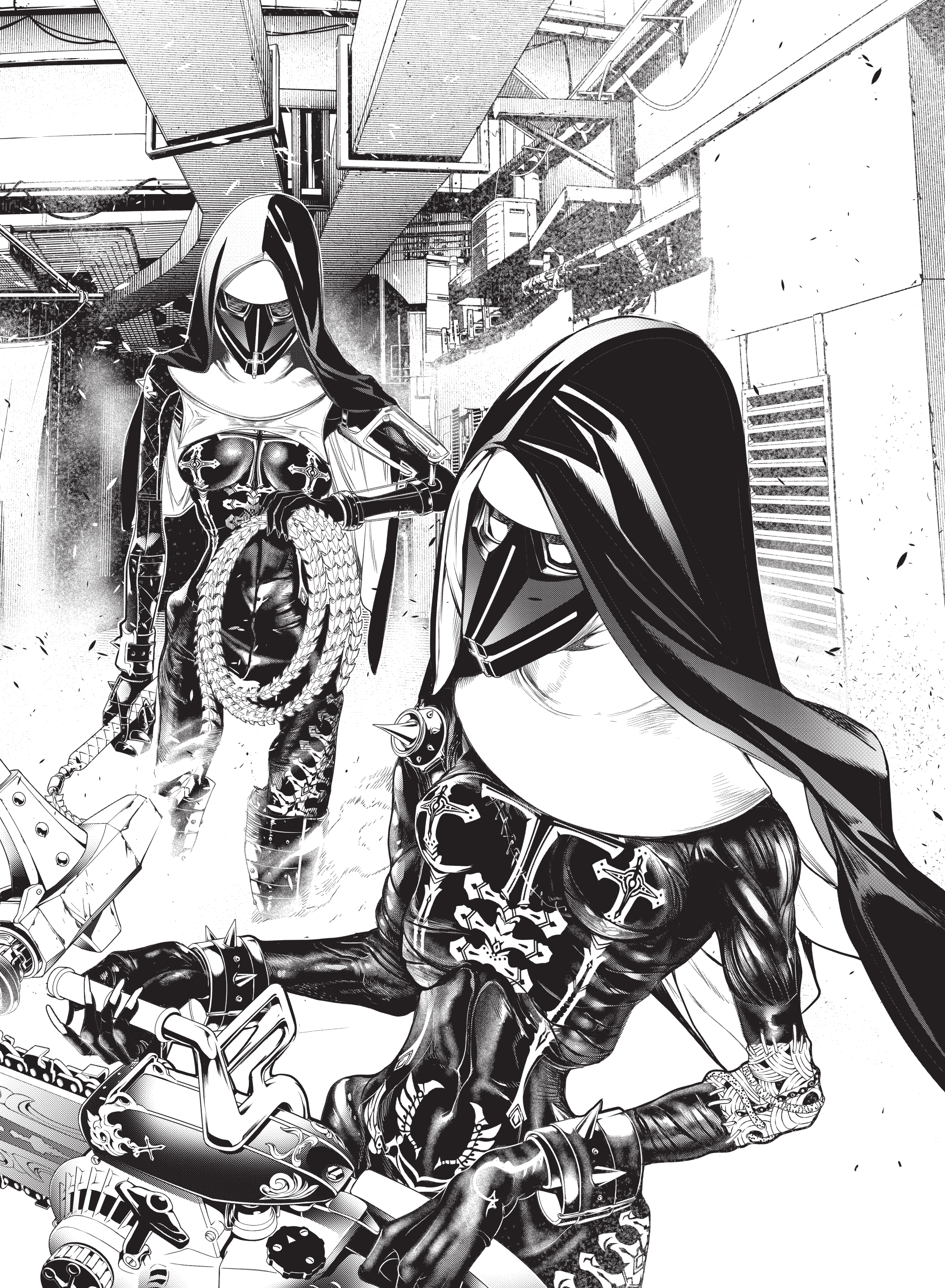

And if you're going to, do it on your own.
Don't drag that boy into it.
...
Leave.
As thou canst tell, I am in a splendid mood.
I will give thee but one chance —
No.
I will overlook this for but *one moment*.

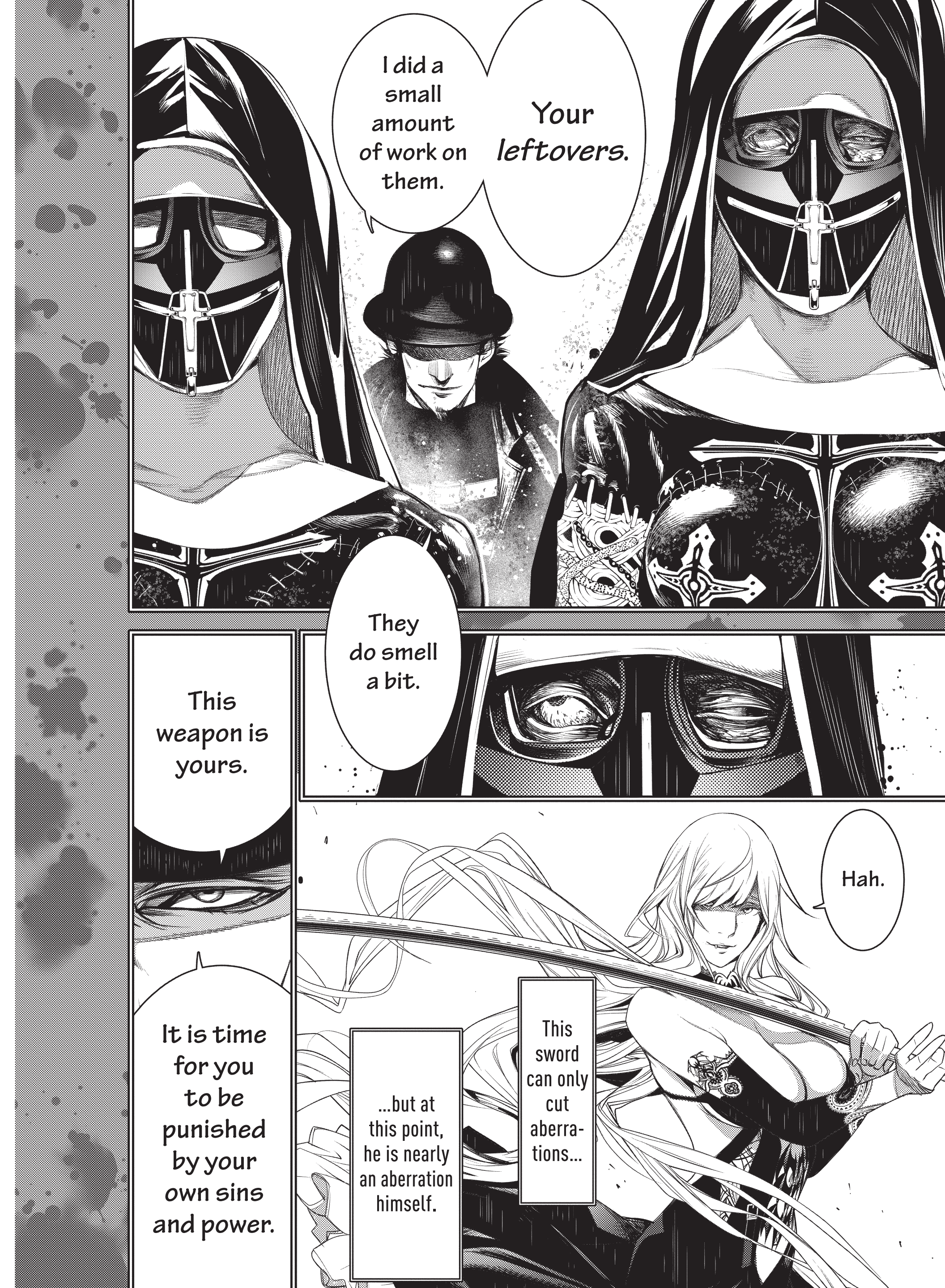
Thy capacities... are notable, I admit.
Whether for the world, for man—or for God, it makes no difference to me.
But do continue to slay aberrations.
I do whatever it takes.
To me, my own life...
...is but one of many methods.
My life...
...is the easiest tool of all for me to use.
It is a blade made to stab the heart of demons.

Is that so? ...A baffling man to the very end.
But as a professional— thou foughtest well against those of the past 500 years.
It has been a long time, but the fierce duel we have carried out for these past few years has once again brought me—
Ah.
I nearly said I enjoyed it.
Oh dear, oh dear.
It seems...
...the moment has passed.

A demon-piercing blade.
ZHLK
And a demon-slaying sword.
JIGGLE
Let us duel—in the most classic of manners.

KREAK
THOK
SHHK
THOK
THOK
THOK
SHHK
SHHK
SHHK
SHHK
SHHK





Your *leftovers.*
I did a small amount of work on them.
They do smell a bit.
This weapon is yours.
Hah.
This sword can only cut aberrations...
...but at this point, he is nearly an aberration himself.
It is time for you to be punished by your own sins and power.

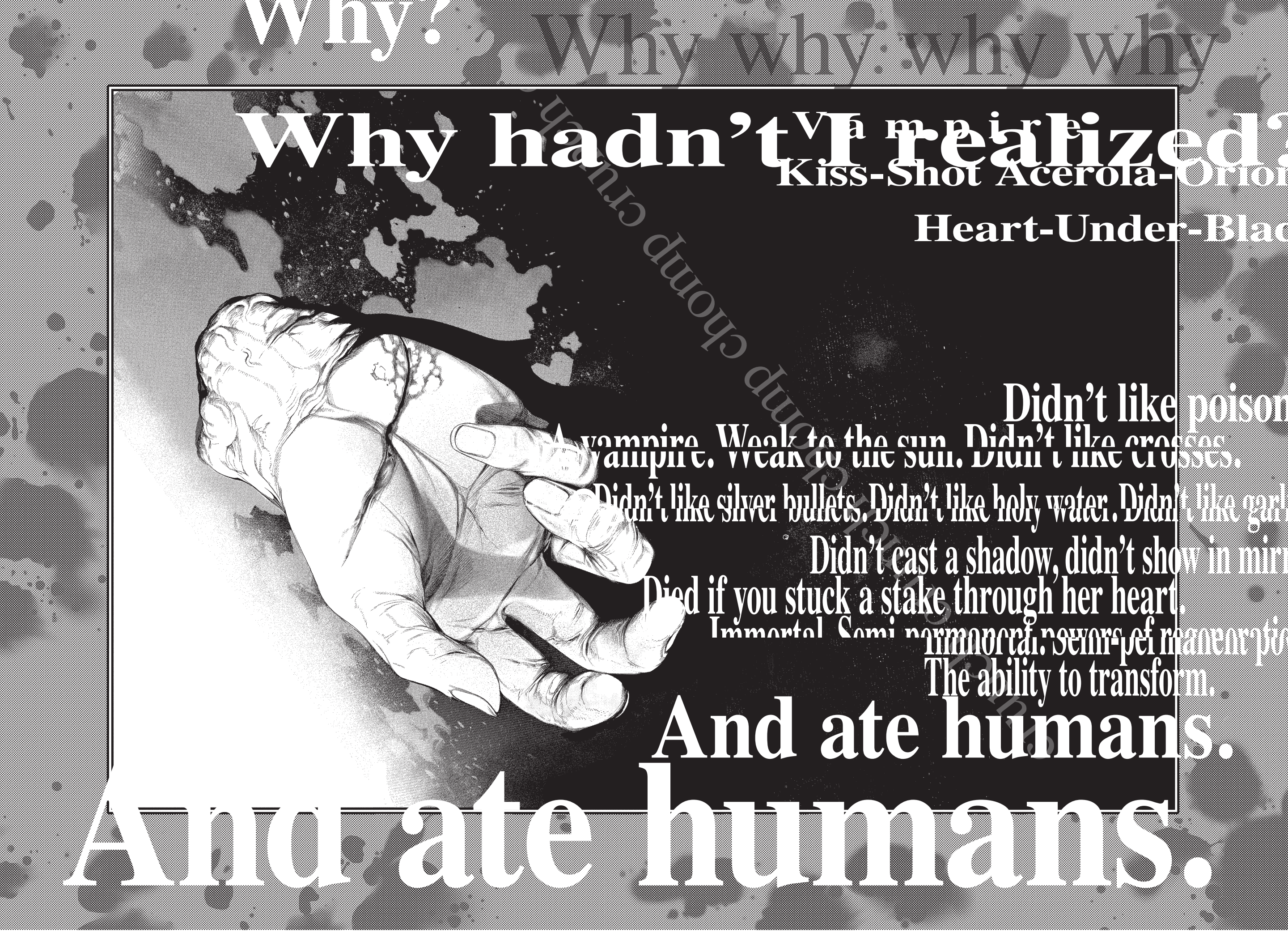
KRASH
"Oh, right.
I've got a *good method*—"
...is what that man...
...said to me.

I could not understand the meaning of his words.
STAB
STAB
STAB
STAB
STAB
STAB
BRRIP
BRRIP
BRRIP
BRRIP
SKREEE
SPLAT
But he said there was no need for me to understand.
THONK
BA-KRAK
FWOOSH
POP
That even if I did not,
my servant—would.

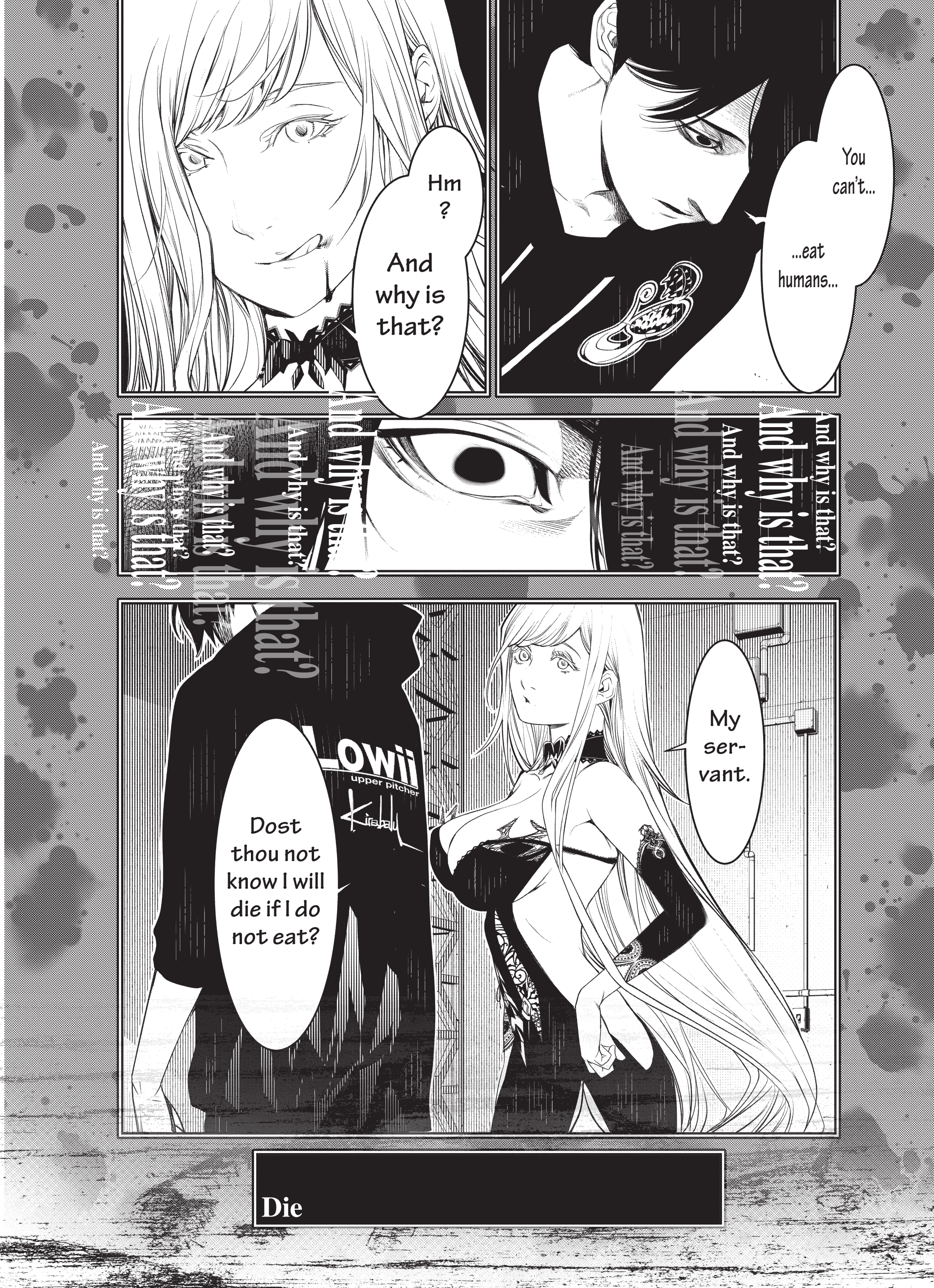
TIME TO SHOW YOU MY TRUE ABILITIES!! I WILL GIVE YOU ALL THE POWER AND EXCESS MY LIFE CAN PROVIDE!
IT IS TIME NOW, HEART-UNDER-BLADE!
I will give you all the power and excess my undeath can provide! A full course of my abilities!
As a treat for all thy work, I will respond in kind!
And I shall feast on it, Guillotine Cutter!!
SGREEEECH
BON APPÉTIT.

What happened next...
...I shall not discuss.
I won, and he did not lose.
I cut, and he was severed.
I ate, and he was not sated.
Guillotine Cutter was an impenetrable man to the end,
and he struggled to the end.
As a person.

didn't know of a place to put myself
at a time like this.
Eventually,
Thinking of every possibility I could—
I decided to stick not just one but both hands into my head,
Until I decided to use
Naoetsu High's P.E. storage shed as a temporary shelter.
Hyeeeeee
uuuuuuuuuuuu
rrara
gaaaaag
CHATTER CHATTER
CHATTER CHATTER
Hyeek!
crunch chomp chomp crunch crunch cho


Why?
Why why why why
Why hadn't I realized?
Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion
Heart-Under-Blad
Didn't like poison
A vampire. Weak to the sun. Didn't like crosses.
Didn't like silver bullets. Didn't like holy water. Didn't like garl
Didn't cast a shadow, didn't show in mirr
Died if you stuck a stake through her heart.
Immortal. Semi-permanent powers of regeneratio
The ability to transform.
And ate humans.
And ate humans.
crunch chomp chomp crunch

He came by as I awaited thy return—
it seems that even this barrier fails to hide my presen
He came at the perfect time,
just as I was feeling hungr
A handy restorative
Often thou hearest that holy men taste dreadful—
but he was quite the delicacy.
An empty stomach truly is the greatest sauce of all.
...
....
Lowii
upper pitcher



You can't...
...eat humans...
Hm?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
And why is that?
My servant.
Dost thou not know I will die if I do not eat?
Lowii
upper pitcher
Die

She was right.
She was exactly right.
It was such an obvious reason.
Almost too simple.
a former human who was trying
to become human again soon.
She didn't even feel the need to
She thought it was common sense.
It probably was common sense.
'm sure it was something she'd always done
for the past 500 years.
was clear as day, yet I hadn't realized or tried to
ze. All I'd done was avert my eyes, for all this time
So obvious
Just food.
Just food
My fault
my fault
y fault
My fault
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
CHATTER
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done
what have I done

Didn't I know this from the very beginning of it all?
In fact
she tried to kill me, right?
She tried to eat me, right?
That day.
That time.
If only I'd been able to abandon her,
the story would have ended there.
That's why Oshino said—
I wasn't a victim. That I was a perpetrator.
Haven't you
hungry
at all late
!!
!—
...Guillotine Cutter!
I might as well have been the one to kill...
!!
Perpetrator

fault
my fault my fault my fault
My fault that more people are going to be eaten
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
CLATTER
Bnngh!
SHUDDER
Urgh!
Nrrgh!
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
CLATTER
SHUDDER
CLATTER
SHUDDER
CLATTER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
GRRRK
SGREEEEEEK
GLOKKT
SPLAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
And I'm...
Grrhk—
GRAKK
GRAKK
TWITCH
TWITCH
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SPLAT
SPLAT
Bffbht!
...a vampire just like her.

Just like Kiss-Shot,
my next meal would soon be—
KRAK KRAK
BRRIP
BRRIP
BRRIP
BRAKK
THWOB
BRRIP
THWOB
SPLAASH
...Urr-rgh!
SPLAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
SPLAP
Ghht!
Ghrrp!
No no no no no!
Don't think about it don't think
Don't think about it don't think

Really ?!
Do mind—
So that wasn't a joke...?
FSSSHHH
Oh, you know.
Do mind.
Oshino said—it was about time for me to get hungry.
Because it had been two weeks, after all—according to him.
That's right... When I went to pick up a salad like I always would—
Plenty-O-Veg Salad
...
Plenty-O-Veg Salad
I put it *back on the shelf. Who needs a salad*— I thought ...!!!
...

All...
...to sustain a single life—so that I, and only I, can live...
I'm going to eat hundreds, even thousands of human beings, taking their bodies and lives.
Kiss-Shot's first thrall—
I think I understand now why he committed suicide after just a few years.
As a person—he couldn't stand living as a monster—a monster like I am right now.

I'll *die* ...
I never even...
...con-sidered it.
But Guillotine Cutter...that low-down, despicable man, was,
as a person ...
...far more justified in his actions than I ever was...
What am I supposed to do now...?
All I can do is *die* ...

A common reason—one accounting for nine-tenths of vampire deaths.
Take off my clothes.
Throw my body...
...into the sun...
... until I burn up and ... ...
I'm a king of streaking in... *The Vampirer's New Clothes*.
I'm no king of aberrations.
...
That's not even funny ...

If I'm going to die...
...I want to at least thank Hanekawa first...
—Wait. ...Oh.
... Right... I... ...delet-ed her contact infor-mation, didn't I.
And don't mess with someone's phone without their permission.
You have one co
selected.
Delete?
Cancel
OK
BEEP
?!
Huh?
?!
What ?!
It's in here...
No.005
Name
Tsubasa Hanekawa
Edit
I thought I told you...!
Hanekawa
Wait there, I'll be right over.

KRRK
I'M HERE TO DELIVER A GIRL.
...
Nope.
Not even funny...

Hanekawa...
...must have put her contact information back into my phone.
KLANG
カシャッ
I DUNNO ABOUT THIS.
I'VE GOTTEN MYSELF LOCKED IN HERE. WHAT AM I GOING TO DO IF YOU TRY SOMETHING NAUGHTY?
OH MY!
YOU'RE SITTING RIGHT THERE TO SNEAK A PEEK AT MY PANTIES.
...Listen, Hanekawa.
I know she's trying to cheer me up, but...

You're getting who I am as a man all wrong.
Even if a naked girl was in front of me...
...I'm the kind of guy who's able to not look at her if she said not to—
That's normal.
Wha...?!
...Seri- ously ...?
Since when had that become standard?
Er...
No, wait.
Really, Hane- kawa.
I told you that my vision's gotten really good ever since I became a vampire, right?
Do you remember back in the aban- doned cram school? There were lots of glass shards all over the ground there, right...?

So you're saying...
...my panties were reflected in the glass shards there, and you were able to look at them whenever you pleased?
Is that it?
No— again!
I didn't look.
Don't you think that's amazing?
Yes, there were moments when the sight nearly crawled into the corners of my eyes—but I controlled myself using my will of steel, you know!
And while I wouldn't have done that at any time, you weren't wearing any pantie—
SPLAT

LIKE I SAID, I DIDN'T SEE ANY-THING!
I DIDN'T LOOK, REALLY!
THONK THONK
FORGIVE ME, I'M TELLING YOU THE TRUTH! I PROMISE I DIDN'T LOOK!
BAM
THUMP
You can't die on me.
...
BOOMP

You and I are going to have lots...
...of fun and exciting discussions in the new school year, right?
So you can't die.
...Hanekawa, you...
...really are amazing...

But...
...what really scared me...
crunch crunch chomp chomp
...was that as
Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion
Heart-Under-Blade
Guillotine Cutter...
ate
She was...
She was
beautiful
That...
...is how she looked in my eyes.

13
BAKEMONOGATARI

Hm.
I understand the situation.
THMP
But, this is all completely normal from Miss Heart-Under-Blade's perspective... right?
Including the fact she thought I was your rations.
...Yeah.
So...
...I—was in the wrong here.

No one else.
The only one in the wrong— is me.
I'd looked back and thought that my spring break...
...wasn't so bad after all.
That's what I thought.
Yes— there was a moment where I believed that.
But in reality, it was the worst spring break possible.
Everything I've done... has been a mistake—
This is like one big, hellish joke...
At this point,
all I can do is—*take responsibility.*
By taking everything—and burning it to the ground.

I even found myself wishing that those moments were all a lie now.
Because if they were...
...things might be a lot easier for me.
And...
...that's why you're giving up on becom-ing human again?
You're trying to leave the big mess you made and run away from it all.

Trying to reset everything all because you failed. Life doesn't have a reset button—
so you're trying to pull the plug instead.
No.
That's not it, Hanekawa... If anything,
someday, the common sense I'd acquired as a human would *leave me and be replaced by a vampire's common sense.*
Hanekawa... someday...
...I'll *even* see you...
...as nothing more than food.

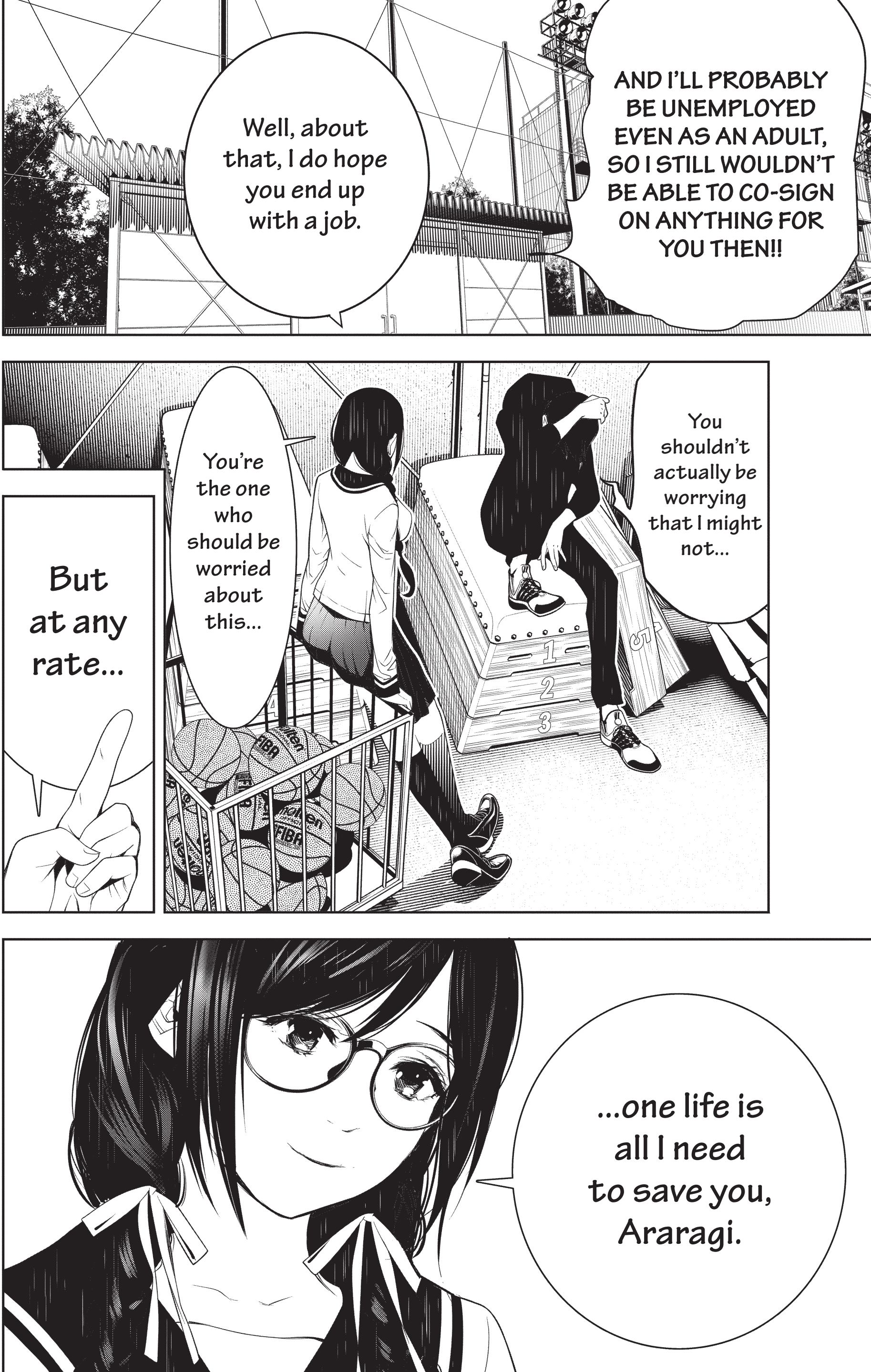
Then eat me.
I think it'd be fine...
...if you ate me.
...
What are you...even saying?

I wouldn't call someone a friend if I wasn't ready to die for them.
Er...

That definition is going a little far.
Who could keep up with a definition of friendship like that?
NISHI
I really don't know.
Not what her words mean... but how she feels.
...Didn't I tell you?
If you got to know the real me, you'd feel disillusioned.

There's something a little off about that girl
I find her creepy.
Creepy
...
...
...Who exactly are you?
Hmm? Your friend, Araragi. At least,
I'd like to think so.
WOULD A PLAIN OLD FRIEND GO THIS FAR FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME?
HOW ARE YOU ABLE TO DO SO MUCH FOR MY SAKE?
OR WHAT, ARE YOU THE REINCARNATION OF A CAT I SAVED WHEN I WAS IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL?
SOME INSEPARABLE CHILDHOOD FRIEND WHO MOVED AWAY YEARS AGO? ARE YOU A WAR BUDDY FROM MY PREVIOUS LIFE?
Nope, not at all.

If you're wondering, I never saved a cat as a kid.
I didn't have any friends who moved away, either.
Like I said before—if you went this far for everyone you knew...
...you could have all the lives you wanted, and it still wouldn't be enough.
Well, I don't go this far for everyone I know.
I'm doing this...
...because it's for you, okay?
BUT...! EVEN IF YOU DO ALL OF THIS!
I'M JUST A MINOR, SO I CAN'T CO-SIGN FOR YOU ON ANYTHING, ALL RIGHT?!
That certainly wasn't my plan all along.


Well, about that, I do hope you end up with a job.
AND I'LL PROBABLY BE UNEMPLOYED EVEN AS AN ADULT, SO I STILL WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO CO-SIGN ON ANYTHING FOR YOU THEN!!
You're the one who should be worried about this...
You shouldn't actually be worrying that I might not...
But at any rate...
...one life is all I need to save you, Araragi.

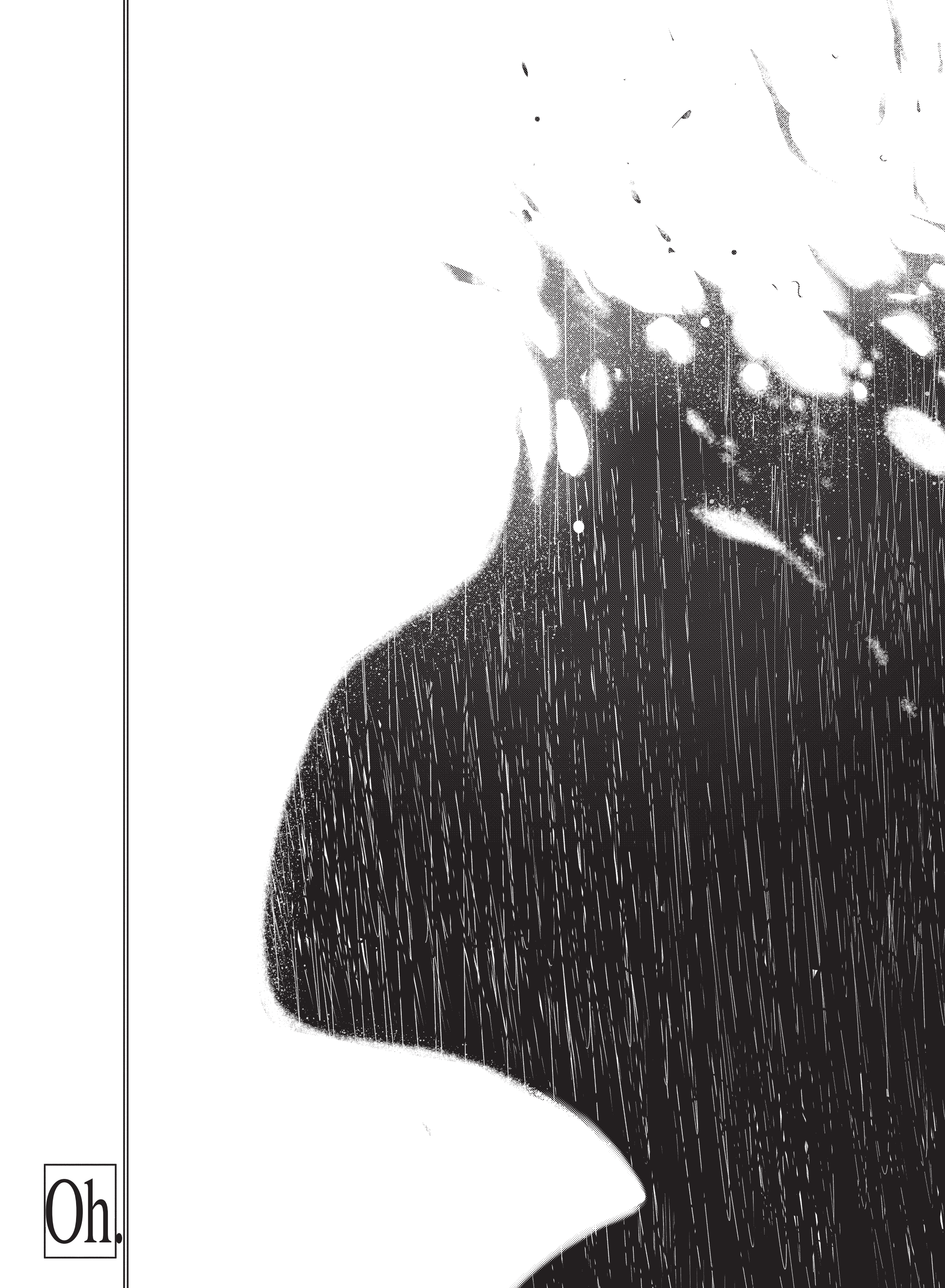
You already ...
...saved my life twice.
THP
So,
I wouldn't complain if you ate me—Araragi.
Lowii
upper pitcher

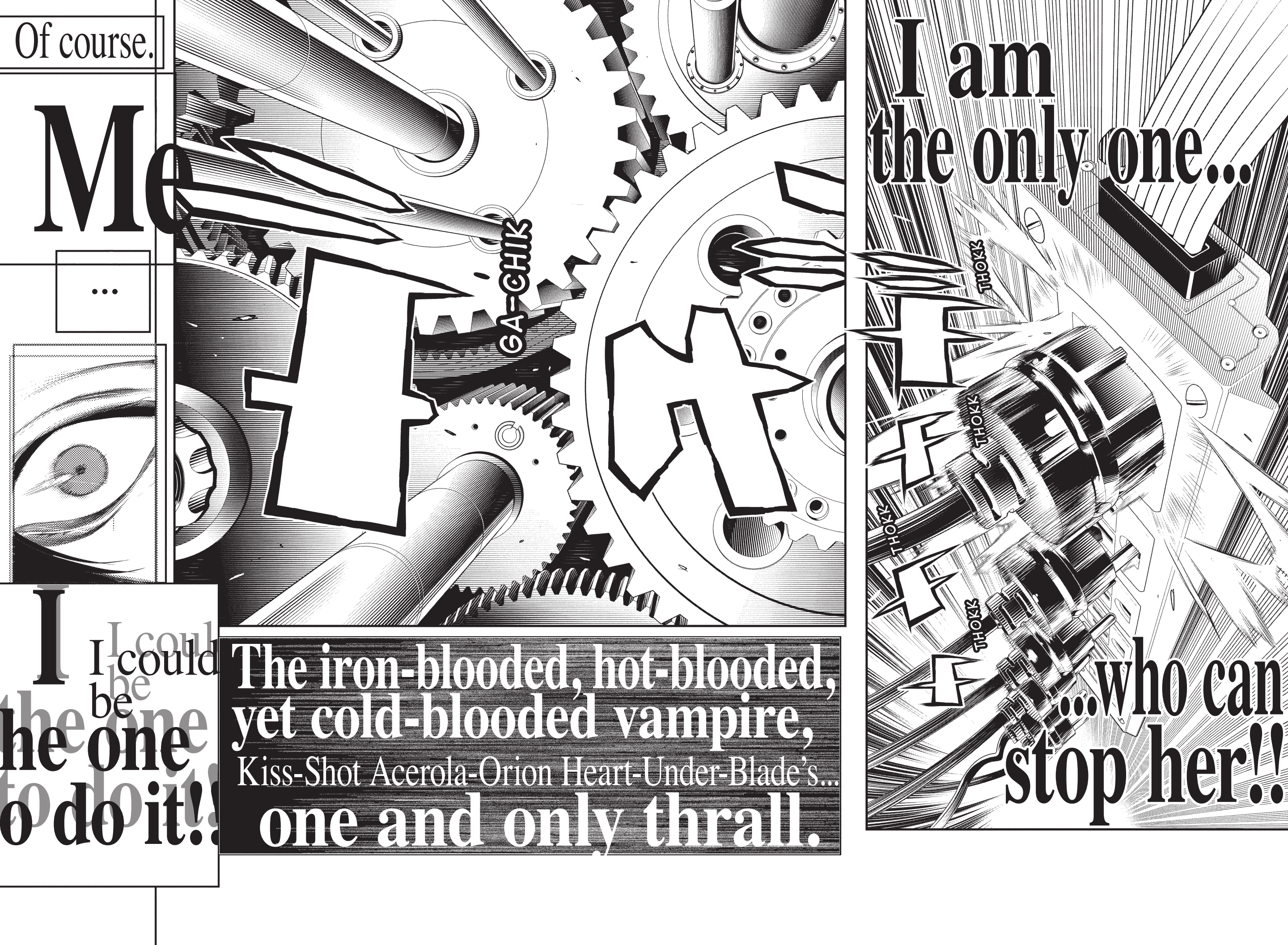
SHIIIINE
...
She hadn't shot me down or made a logical argument.
But she'd still overwhelmed me in some way—I didn't have anything to say in reply.
DIZZ
DIZZ
DIZZ
She's amazing.
She really is.
I'D PROBABLY SAY IT HURTS OR SOMETHING, THOUGH.
She's so amazing that it doesn't make sense.
Lowii
upper pitcher
So...
...you can't die.
...
Seeing you, I feel so terribly lame.
I probably would have died a lot sooner if I hadn't met you.
You're not listening—I just said you can't die.
Do you hear what I'm saying?

Well...
It's not like me dying would solve anything, but...
But in that case,
what about the responsibility for this?
It's all— over already. No one can stop Kiss-Shot...now that she has her full powers.
Oshino, maybe— but he'd never do anything beyond "striking a balance" ...
Even Guillotine Cutter— someone who'd probably be among the strongest fighters on the side of humanity—
turned out like that.
Episode and Dramaturgy wouldn't even be a match for her.

Even you...
...Araragi ?

Huh?


Oh.



I am the only one...
...who can stop her!!
THOKK
THOKK
THOKK
THOKK
GA-CHIK
The iron-blooded, hot-blooded, yet cold-blooded vampire, Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade's... one and only thrall.
Of course.
Me.
...
I
I could be the one to do it!!

Click.
It felt as if the gears in my head locked into place... and finally started to turn.
BOOM
THROB
POP
POP POP
I still haven't done anything!
I—can be the one to do it!
That's what it means—to take respon-sibility!
TH-THMP
TH-THMP

HANE-KAWA !!!
Mhm.
Now you've got the look of a man.

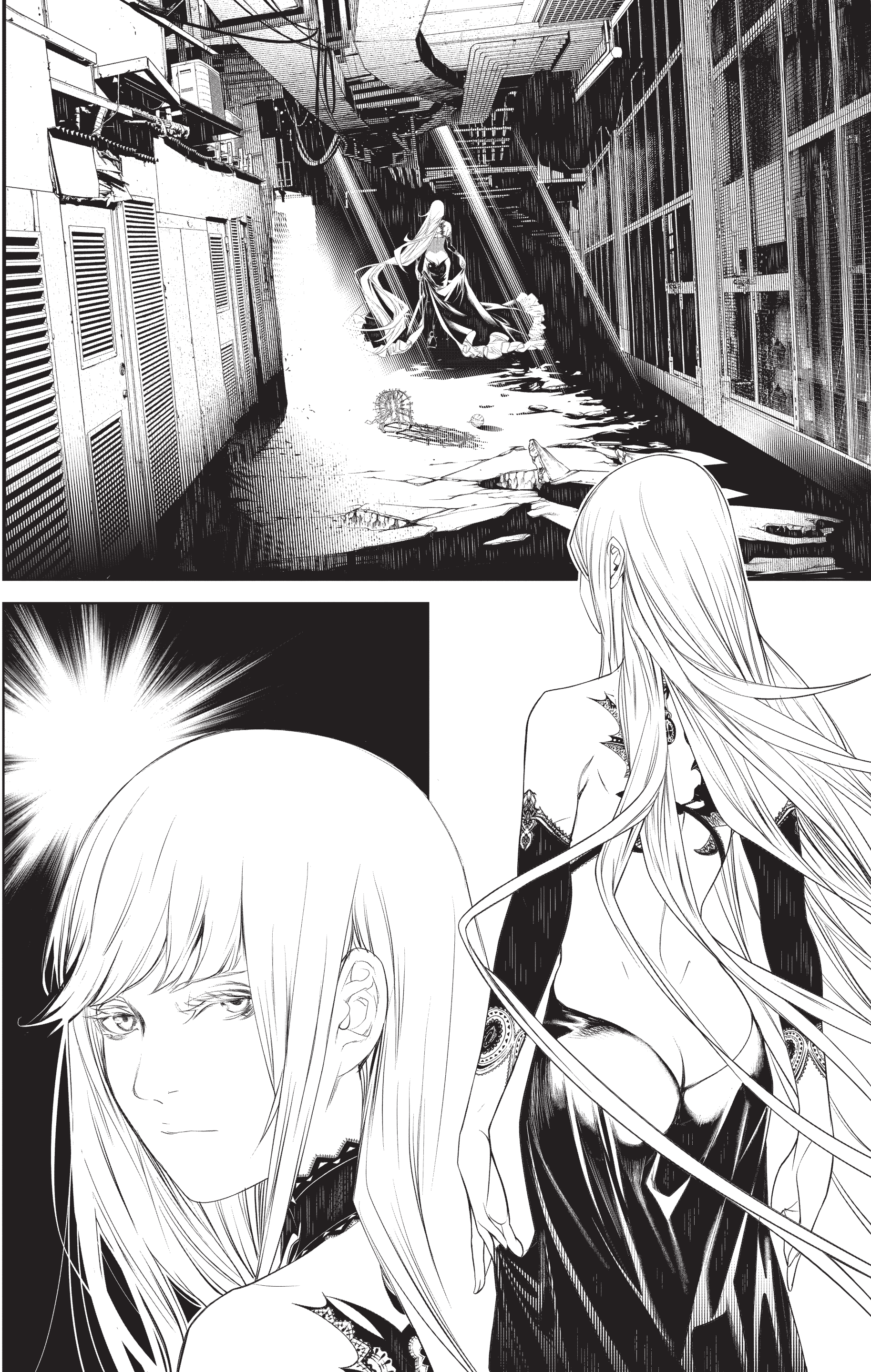
That's right.
This is something that only I can do.
ZHM
The aberration slayer.
I—will stop her.
I'm going to be the one— to slay Kiss-Shot!!

If those four weren't able to do it...
...*what about me*? The one to collect her limbs from those four. Her right arm.
Her left arm.
Both of her legs.
Her heart—
Me.
I have no choice but to!
GA-KLING
SNAP
switch on

Me !!!
Araragi.
Well, it might be inconvenient for you right now,
but it would've been convenient for you a little earlier, maybe?
HEE HEE HEE
Would you like ...
...to hear some good news on top of that?
?!
...?

So, I was feeling a little— anxious.
It's not that I doubted her,
but I didn't know if Miss Heart-Under-Blade would really turn you back into a human.
So I did a bunch of research into what would happen in that off-chance.
And I found a way. Just one.
One way— to turn you back into a human.

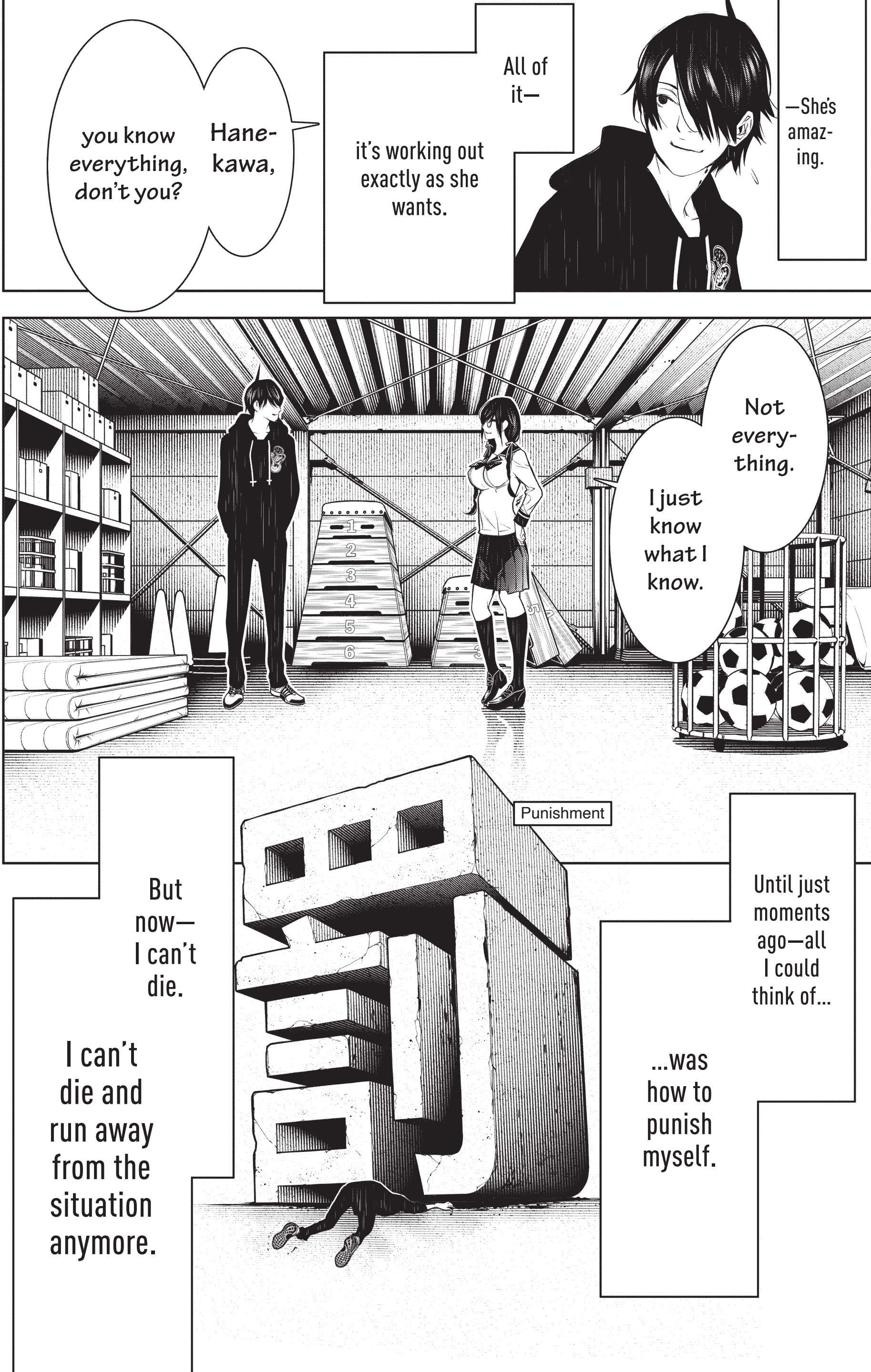
"Normally"...
"Servants are supposed to follow their master.
But if they actually cause their master harm...
...the master-servant relationship breaks down."
"The servant is stripped of their nature as such."
...
Hmm?
In other words, if you attack Miss Heart-Under-Blade...
...you'll be able to return to being human, regardless of how she feels about it.



Tch.
GA-KLANG
That ration...!!

I see ...!
The rule is so simple.
All I feel right now is—surprised.
I found the same thing written in multiple books.
...So it seems like reliable information.
Is that so?
It's that simple ...
...for me to return...
Expulsion
破門
...to being human ...?!

No matter how convenient it might be for you,
you can't just go back to being human if there will have to be casualties to get there.
CLAP
And so you think that the only option is for you to die, which makes this news inconvenient to you— I assume.
But I had to tell you.
You're the only one who can defeat her, after all.
...!!
Heh.
You might say that I'm fixing things here.
It's a nasty trap, if I do say so myself.
351486

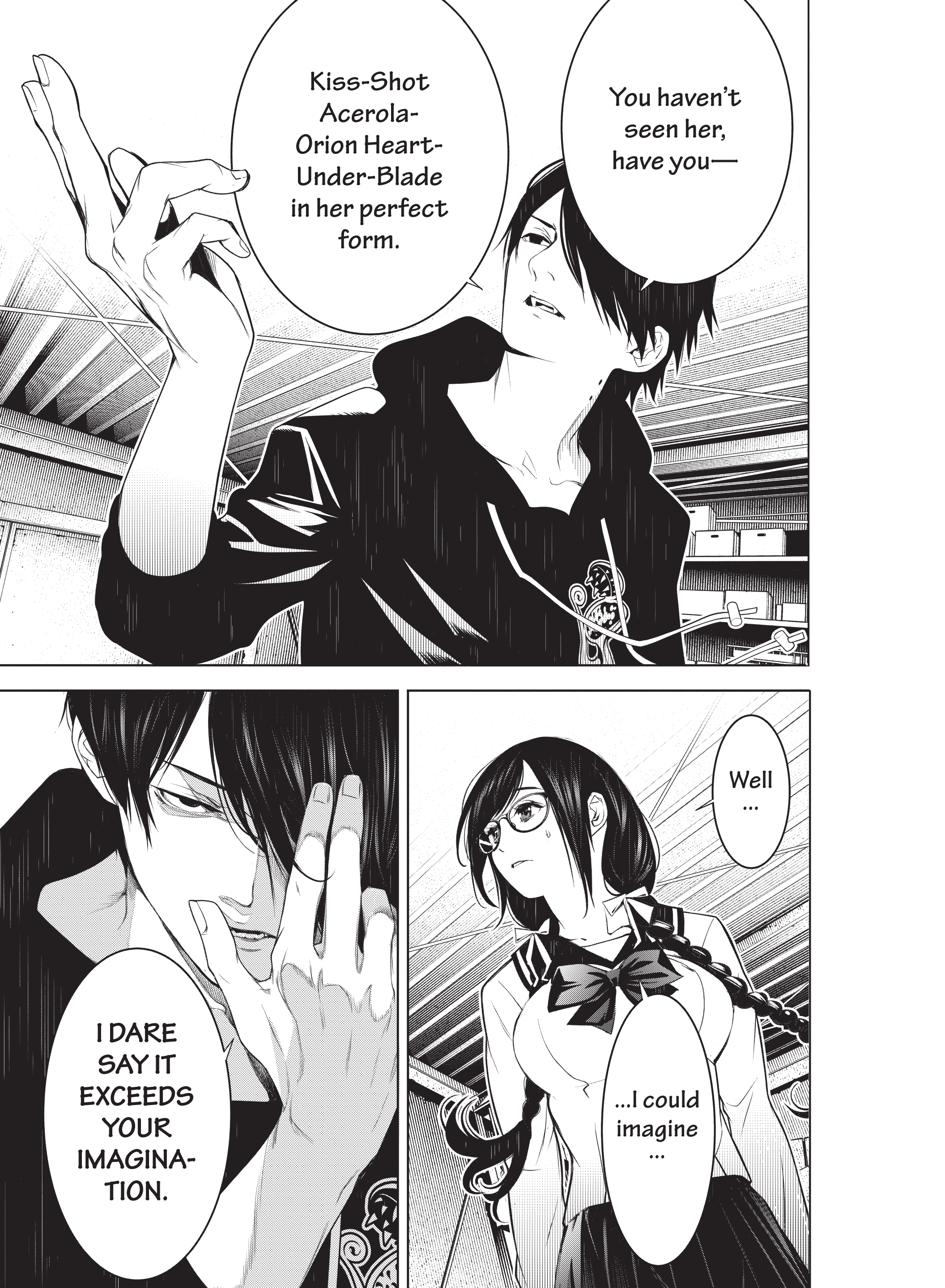

—She's amazing.
All of it—
it's working out exactly as she wants.
Hane-kawa,
you know everything, don't you?
Not every-thing.
I just know what I know.
Punishment
Until just moments ago—all I could think of...
...was how to punish myself.
But now—I can't die.
I can't die and run away from the situation anymore.

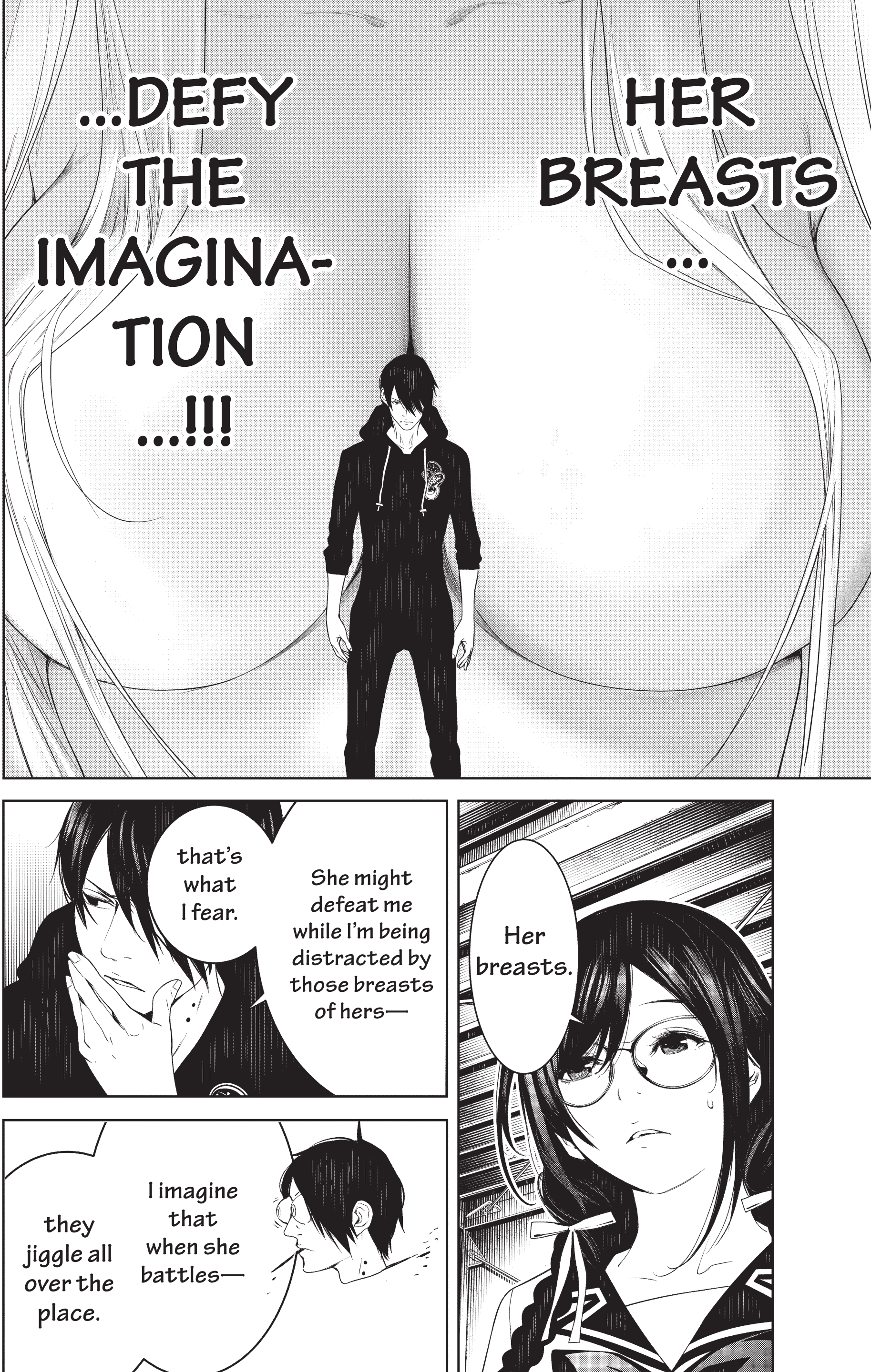
I will cooperate with you, of course. I came up with this plan, so it's my responsibility as well.
Don't hold back. Let me know if there's anything I can do.
Heh ...
OF COURSE, I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING MORE PERVERSE THAN WHAT I DID THE OTHER DAY, M'KAY?
Ahaha!
...
Don't hold back.
Anything—huh.
Hane-kawa.
In that case... I have just one request for you.
Mm!

WOULD YOU ALLOW ME...

...TO TOUCH YOUR BREASTS ?
Lowii
upper pitcher

Your breasts—
No, I heard you.
...Is that something you just *have* to d—
IT'S SOMETHING I JUST HAVE TO DO!!!


You haven't seen her, have you—
Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade in her perfect form.
Well ...
...I could imagine ...
I DARE SAY IT EXCEEDS YOUR IMAGINATION.

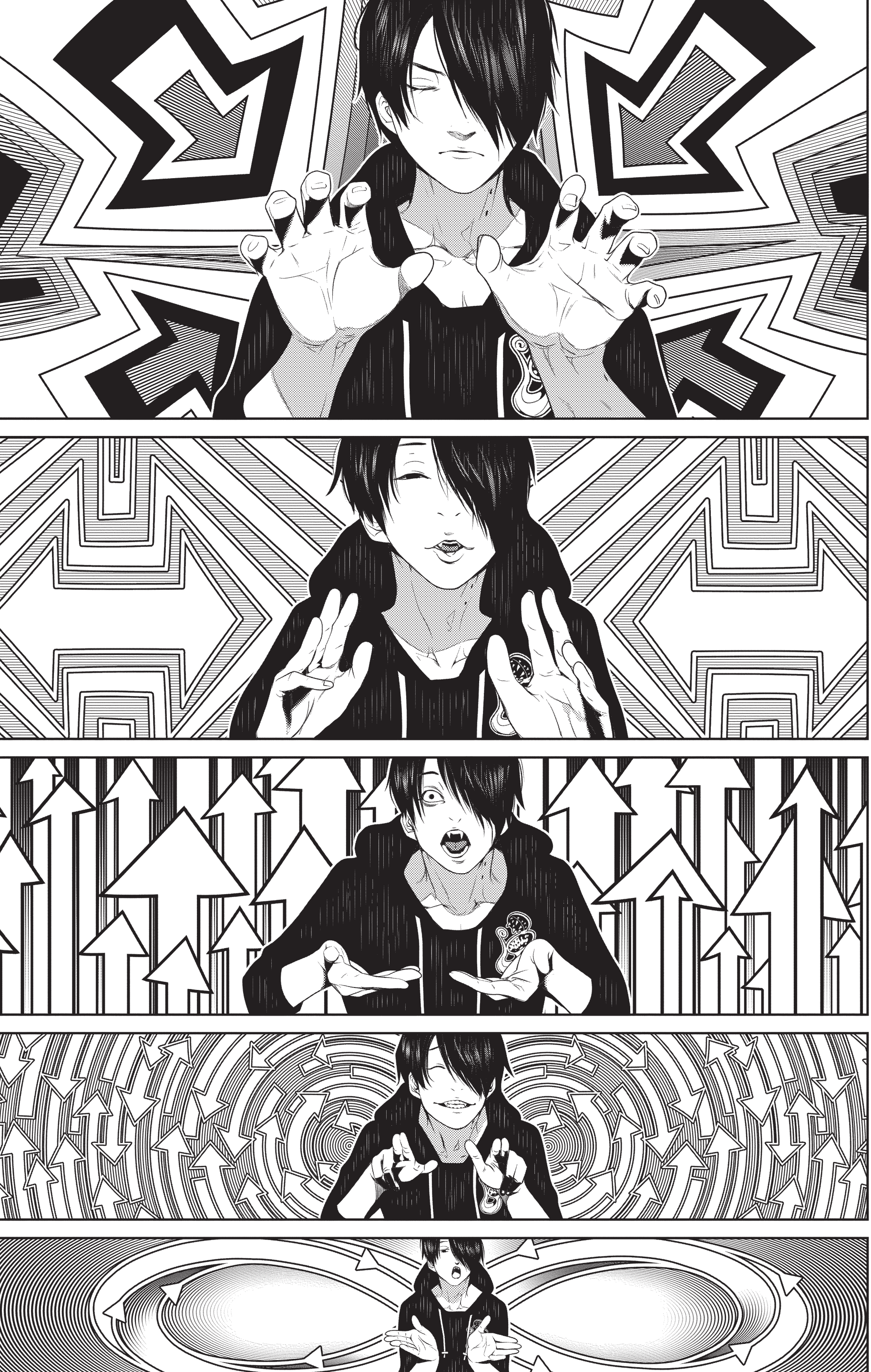

HER BREASTS...
...DEFY THE IMAGINATION...!!!
Her breasts.
She might defeat me while I'm being distracted by those breasts of hers—
that's what I fear.
I imagine that when she battles—
they jiggle all over the place.

So to be ready for that...
Lowii
upper pitcher
...I want to train in the ways of girls' breasts.
Ohhh ...
That's an even stupider reason than I expected...
...
...

I guess it's fine.
BOING
ぽよんっ
What ?!!

JOLT
Hold on a second.
JIGGLE
...
... What ?
Huh ?
Wait.
Oh man ...
What about my argument actually convinced her?
It's not like...
...I could say I was just joking...
SNAP
Not now ...
SLIDE

Hiding her bra.
Lowii
?!!
JIGGLE
Now, touch them.



Now, touch them.
BLUP
Why?!
What is going on here?!?
WHAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA

Ohhh …
I want to train in the way of girls' breasts.
Kiss-Shot Acerola-Orion Heart-Under-Blade in her perfect form
You haven't seen her, have you—
But…
But still!
True, I was the one to suggest it—
as far as I recall.
She…
She didn't have to undo any-thing!
I wasn't asking her to go this far!
She didn't have to undo a single thing!
I'm not emotionally prepared for this!

Araragi.
If you're going to fondle them, do a proper job of it.
P—
Proper ?
I think you ought to fondle them for at least 60 seconds.
60s?!
She's setting the bar... way too high...
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
And some-where along the way, it went from "touching" to "fondling."
Also ...
How do I put this...?

RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
It's like as soon as she undid her bra...
Hah.
It seems the seal placed upon me has been undone at last.
...her breasts grew even bigger...

Agh...
Fight
Run
Item
Equipment
Club
Wood Shield
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
I have all the psychological equipment of a freeloader in some freemium game...
How am I supposed to deal with demonic breasts like these...?!
Demon Lord Basa has appeared!
...
!!
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
Eek!
BWOING

カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
SHOVE
BOING

JIGGLE
JIGGLE
JIGGLE

No hold-ing back !!!
OKAY !!!
HUUURK
I'm sorry!
BAM

...Or so I say, but...
How do I tackle this...?!
They definitely won't fit in my hands...
From the top? The bottom? From the side and bring them together—no, maybe I should just charge straight into the center?
...

Ah... Um, Hanekawa...?
W-Would it be possible for you to turn around?
I don't know if I can do this while I'm looking at your face.
Hooh...
Ack.
You're not going to get mad at me later, are you?
Don't worry. I won't.
P...
Promise?
I promise.
Okay, well... um...
Just in the off-chance that this ends up going to court...
...could you say something for me like, "ARARAGI, PLEASE, I BEG YOU—FONDLE MY BRALESS BOOBIES"?

SNAP
...
What was that sound ...?
Ah—
...Ah.
Araragi... p-pl...
Please.
I beg you.
Fondle my... braless... boobies.
...
I can't have you saying it in such a quiet voice. It's almost like I'm forcing you to say it against your will.
You need to say it louder. I want it to come from you, so tell me what you want me to do to you, and where.

ARA-RAGI!
P...PLEASE, I BEG YOU! FONDLE MY...
...BRALESS BOOBIES!!
TWITCH
TWITCH
"It's a great honor to have my breasts fondled by you, Araragi."
TWITCH
What ?!!
WIGGLE
WIGGLE
WIGGLE
It's...a...great honor...to have my...breasts fondled by... y-you, Araragi...

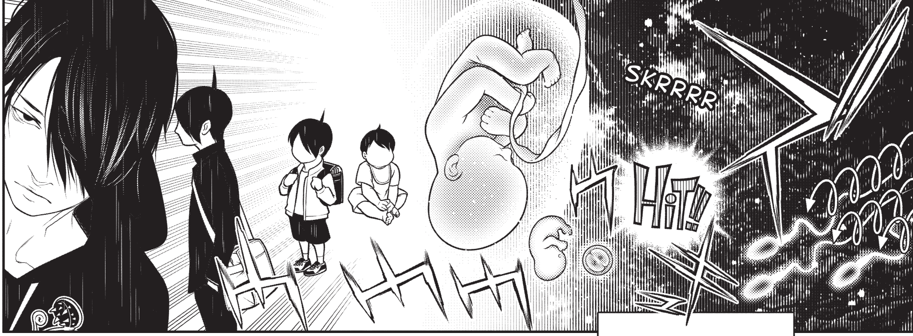
Boobie Theramin
“I've worked hard to grow these lewd breasts all so that you could grope them one day, Araragi.”
FLEX
I...
I've worked so hard to grow these lewd breasts...
FLEX
FLEX
...a-all so that... you could... grope them one day... Araragi!!
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
Huh.
You know, I never expected you...
...to be this dirty.
...!
YES!
SKRRK
SKRRK
SKRRK
I'M A VERY DIRTY GIRL!
I'M SORRY!
Oh, there's no need to apologize. It's not like you're causing anyone trouble by being dirty.
I-I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, HEHEH!

So?
How exactly are the breasts of our dirty yet hard-working class president...
...lewd ones?
I—
I take pride...
...in my belief that...
...their size and their softness...
...could not be... any lewder...
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
JIGGLE

...They're soft and...
...sup-ple.
...!
TWITCH
...Nngh...
TWITCH
TWITCH
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
Ah!
TRMBL
TRMBL
SQUEEZE
ZZST
Nnh!

No...
TWIIITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
TWITCH
...Nh!
!!
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
—Her breasts are getting even bigger!
They're soaring!!
As if to defy gravity!!
A BOOB ABERRATION
How enigmatic...!!
CLAP
SWOO

Ah…
I see now.
That's how it is.
God…


SKRRRR
HIT!!

My life.
My existence.
It was all in order to experience this very moment...!!

化 *bake*

物 *mono*

語 *gatari*

KOYOMIvamp

13

化 *bake*

物 *mono*

KOYOMIvamp

13

語 *gatari*

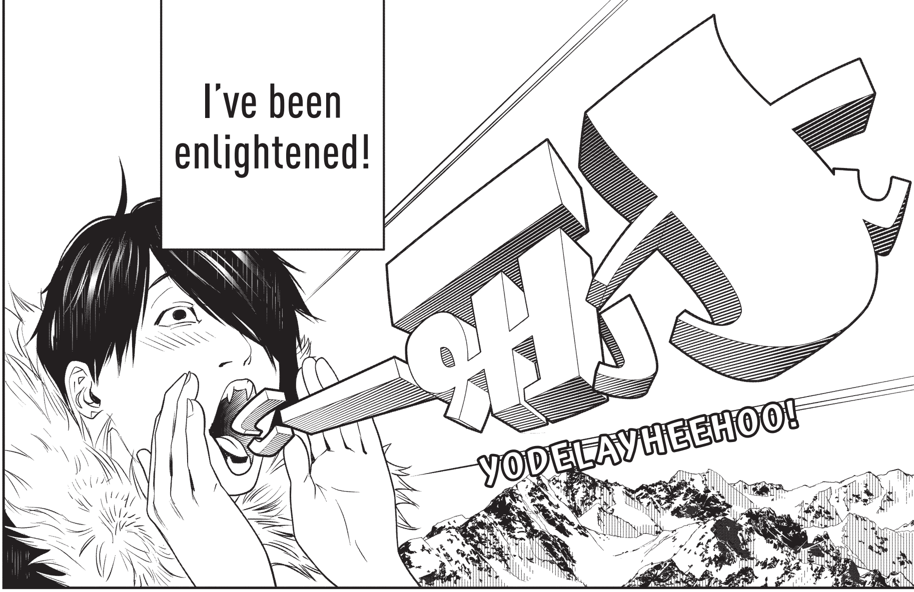
BWOOOOSH
SHKK
SHKK
SHKK
SHKK
SHKK
SHKK
SHKK
SHK
SHK
SHK
SHK
OOO
OOO
OOO
OOO
OOO
OOO
OOO
OOO
OOO
?!

GRAAAAR
BARK
BARK
BARK
TWRLL
GRRRR!
Zetsu Tenrou Battouga!
BOOOOM
FFHHH!
FFHHH!
FFHHH!
BFFHH!
BOOBIEMONOGATARI

Haah...
Haaah!
Haaah!
Nnn-ggh!

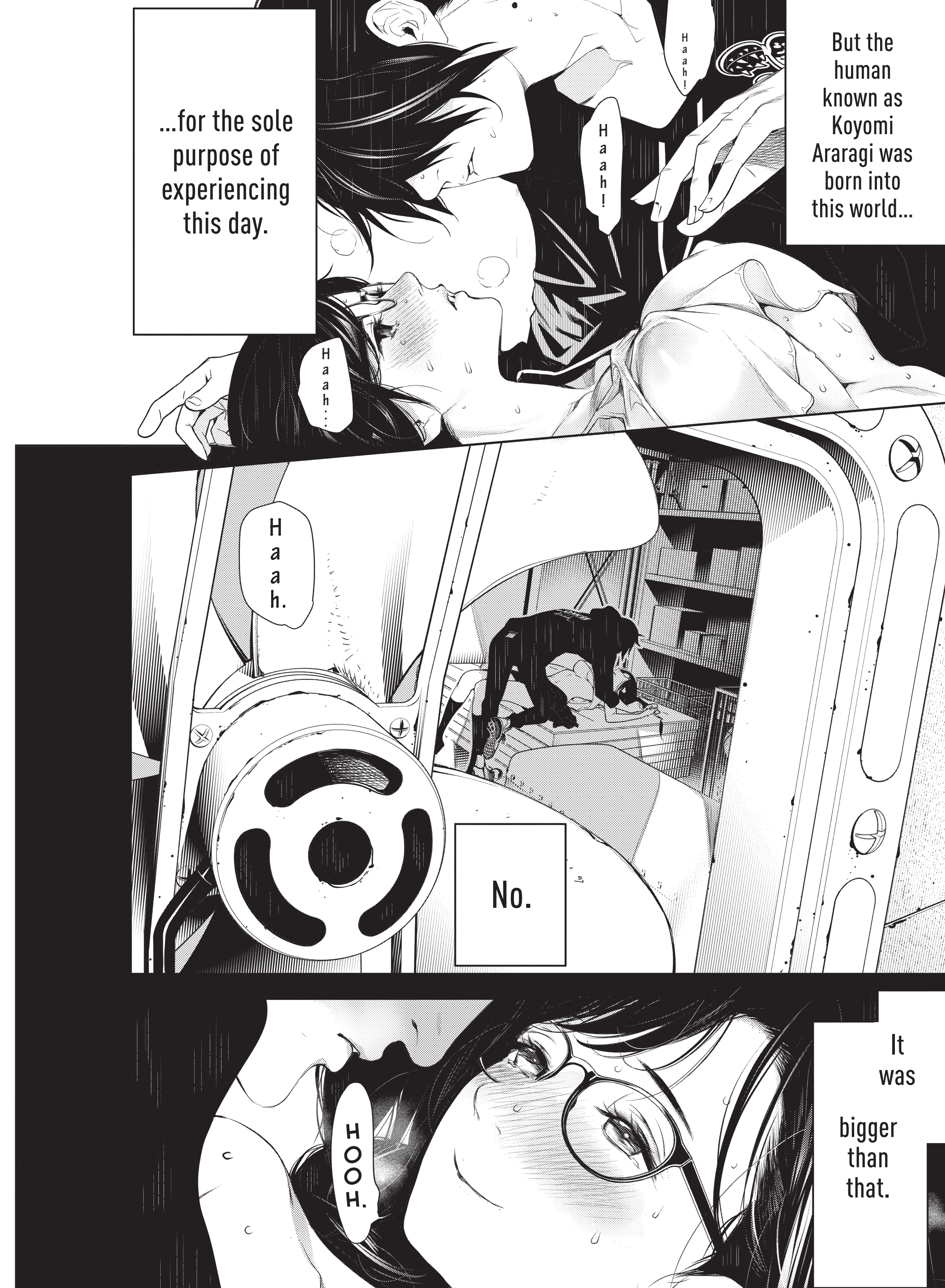
JIGGLE
JIGGLE
JIGGLE

Ah, yes. Now I see ...!!
JIGGLE


I've been enlightened!
YODELAYHEEHOO!

YODELAYHEEHOO!
My life ...
YODELAYHEEHOO!
YODELAYHEEHOO!
TWITCH
TWITCH
...was all in order to experience this day!!
YODELAYHEEHOO!
JIGGLE

My life existed ...
...for this moment in time.
Haaah...
Haaah!
Haaah!
Why was I given life and born into this world?
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
KRATTLE
カラ
Like many adolescents, I, too...
...once struggled with this question...



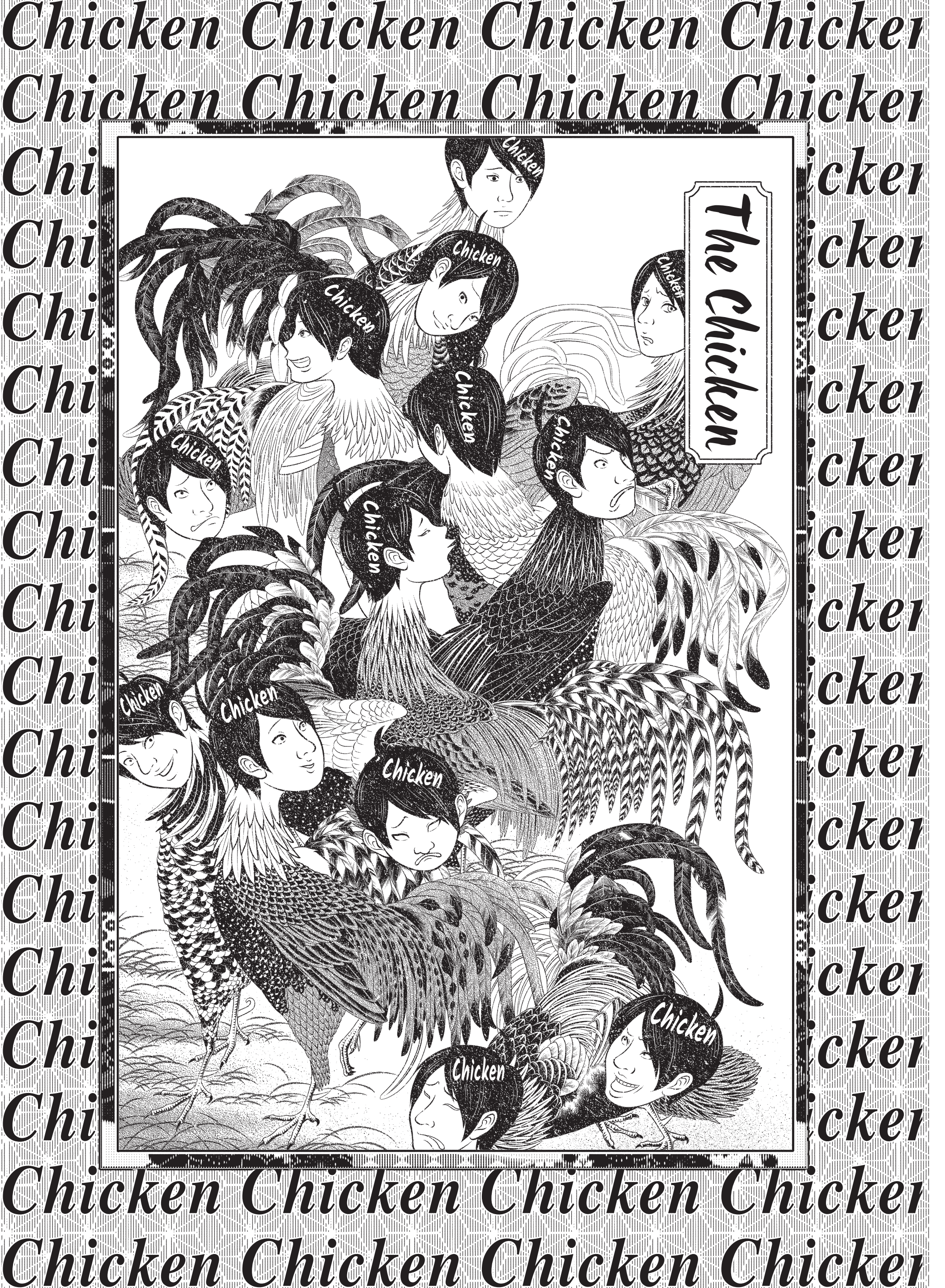
But the human known as Koyomi Araragi was born into this world...
Haaah!
Haaah!
...for the sole purpose of experiencing this day.
Haaah...
Haaah.
No.
It was bigger than that.
HOOH.

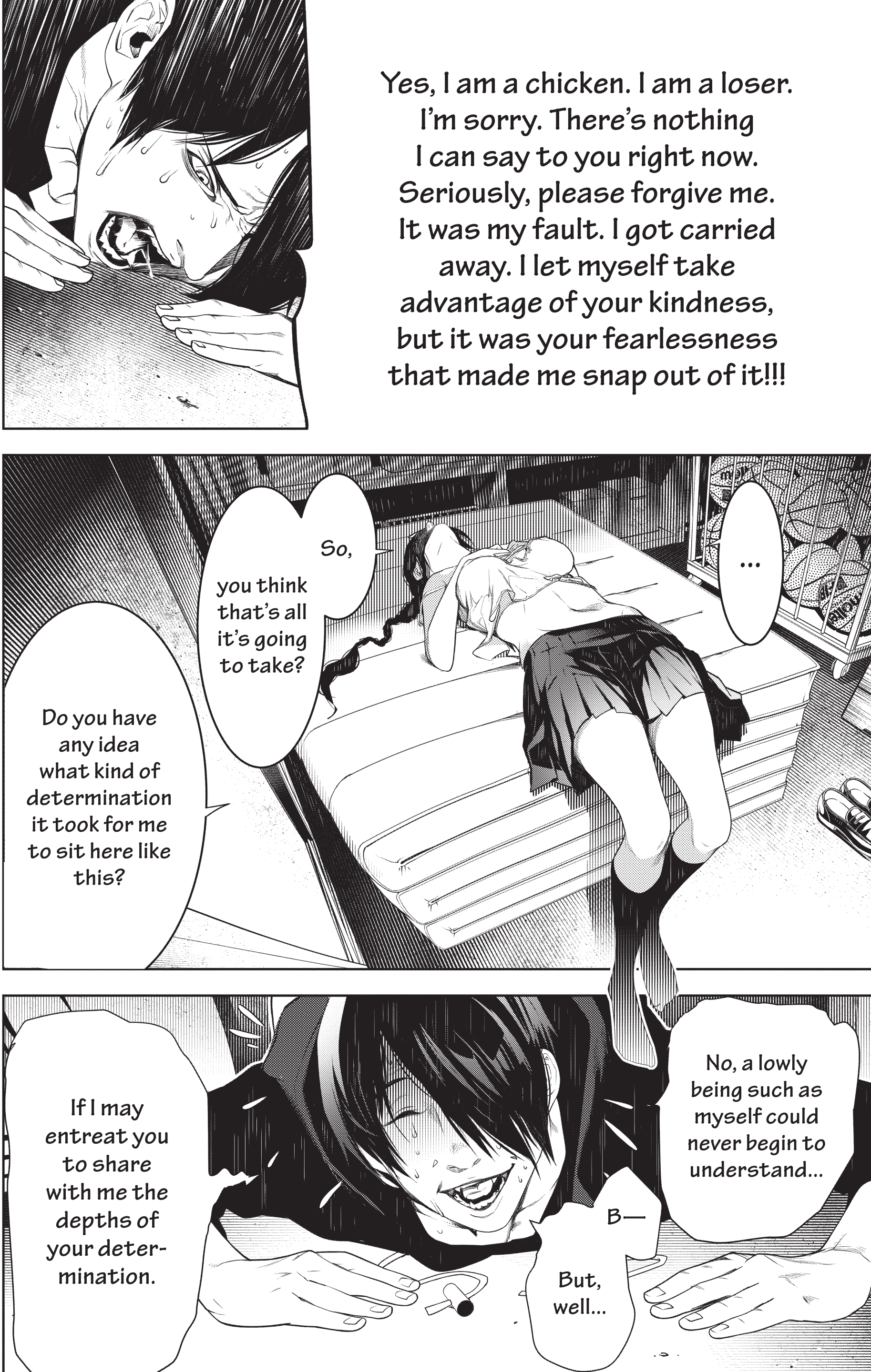
It's wrong to speak of this on merely a personal level.
This world ...
...must have existed to this point so I could experience this day.
MMH.
The rest of history ...
...will be nothing more than an after-thought!!

—HOLD ON! GROPING A FRIEND'S BOOBS? THAT KIND OF THING JUST ISN'T SUP-POSED TO HAPPEN!!
SGRAAASH
SGRAAASH

Error!!!
Error!!!
I can't.
molten
I'M SOR-RRYY YYYY!!

NO, IT DOESN'T HAPPEN!
THIS KIND OF THING...
...JUST SHOULDN'T HAPPEN!!
Chicken.
Agh.
Chick-en.
Chicken.
Chicken.
Chicken.
Chicken.


The Chicken
Chicken


Yes, I am a chicken. I am a loser. I'm sorry. There's nothing I can say to you right now. Seriously, please forgive me. It was my fault. I got carried away. I let myself take advantage of your kindness, but it was your fearlessness that made me snap out of it!!!
...
So,
you think that's all it's going to take?
Do you have any idea what kind of determination it took for me to sit here like this?
No, a lowly being such as myself could never begin to understand...
B—
But, well...
If I may entreat you to share with me the depths of your deter-mination.

Honestly...
I was convinced you were going to do more...
...than just squeeze my breasts.
"Oh," I thought. "So that's how it's going to be."
"My first time is going to be here, in a P.E. shed, on top of a gym mat."
BLOOP
Don't you think you were being a little hasty in making up your mind...?

I actually figured it'd be okay.

Huh?
Err...
She did ?
Hm?
THWOKK
U
B
GWOOSH
T!
DESPITE ALL OF THAT!!
THWOKK
YOU TEASED AND HUMIL-IATED ME!
TH-TH-THWOKK
AND YOU DIDN'T LAY A SINGLE FINGER ON ME!!
OW!
TH-THWOKK
OWWW !

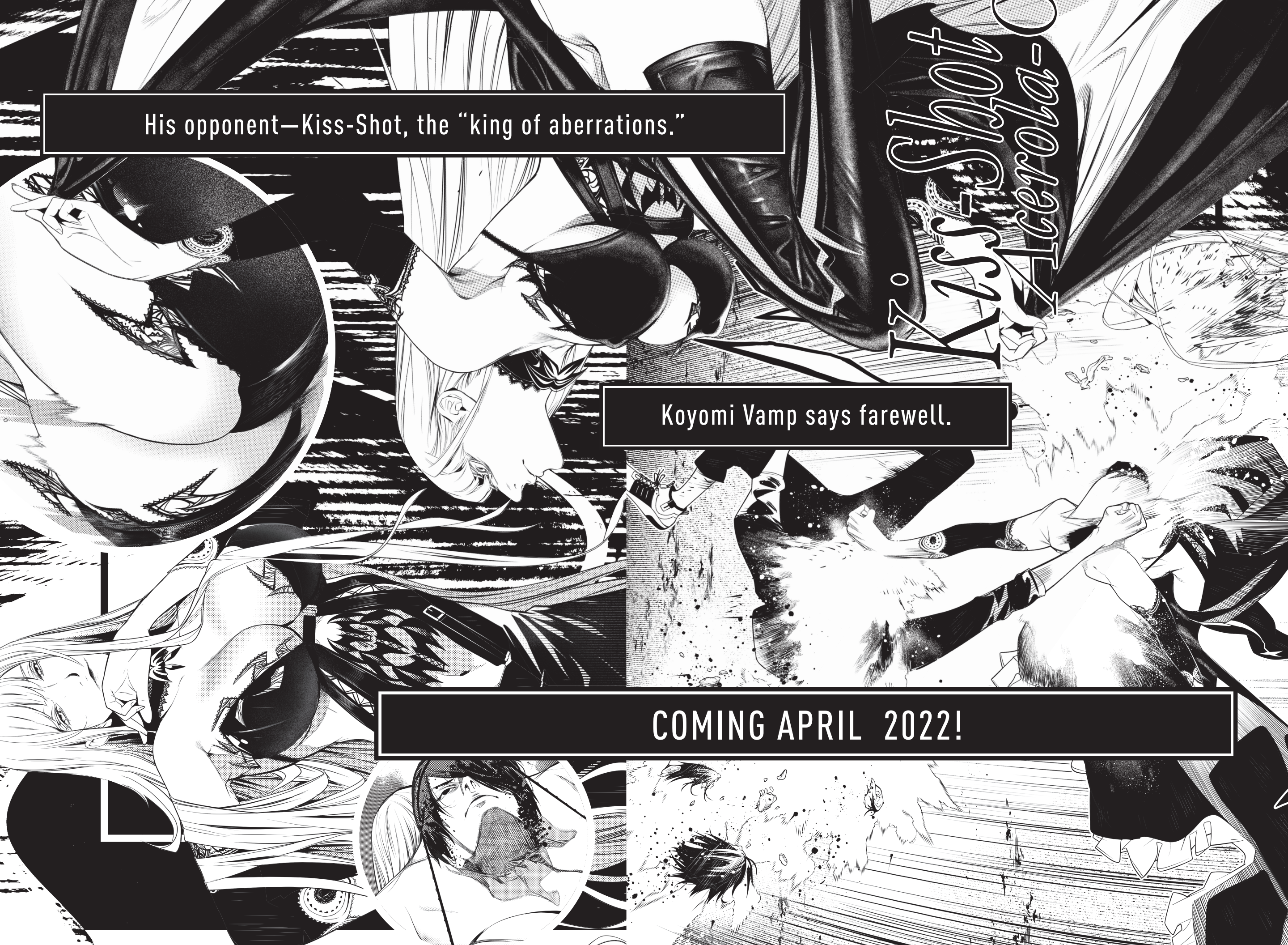
Y—
YEAH, AND THAT'S WHY I'M APOLOGIZING!
SO THAT'S ALL IT TAKES?! AN APOLOGY?!
HUH?!
THAT'S WHERE I STAND?! I'M SUPPOSED TO FORGIVE YOU AS LONG AS YOU APOLOGIZE?!
HUH?!
I am so sincerely and honestly sorry about this.
Please forgive me, my stylishly bespectacled class president.
TWITCH
...I've never been this insulted in my life.
EEK!
...Was it the stuff about her breasts?
Or the stuff about her glasses?
Hey.
Ara-ragi?

Am I really …
…that unattractive to you…?
Noooooooooooooooo!
Stop it stop it stop it stop
Stop it stop it stop it stop
B—
Don't torment me with that perfect of a line!!
IF I FONDLED YOUR BREASTS LIKE THIS, I'D PROBABLY REGRET IT FOR THE REST OF MY LIFE!
BUT!

Though I might regret not fondling them, too.
Still, I've made my decision. If to fondle would be to feel lost...
...then better never to have fondled at all!
W- Would it be...
...acceptable if I were to massage your shoulders instead?
I'd like to... rub your shoulders, Miss Hanekawa...
Okay. We have a deal then.
Thank you very much.

Continued in Volume 14

Next Volume Preview
BAKEMONOGATARI
14
Through his dialogue with Hanekawa, Koyomi has realized what he must do.
The final showdown has come at last. Koyomi swears upon Hanekawa's chest that he will be victorious.
Orion Heart-Under-Blade


His opponent—Kiss-Shot, the "king of aberrations."
Kiss-Shot
Acerola-O
Koyomi Vamp says farewell.
COMING APRIL 2022!

BAKEMONOGATARI (manga) 13

Kodansha Digital Edition

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First published in Japan in 2021 by Kodansha Ltd., Tokyo.
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English digital edition published by Kodansha USA Publishing, LLC, New York.

ISBN: 9781636996905

Digital Edition: 1.0.0

Editing: Ajani Oloye
Translation: Ko Ransom
Production: Grace Lu
Shirley Fang
Hiroko Mizuno

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